

FROM THE CORNER

By ERNIE CERESA

Competition among newspapers is the name of the game, for without competition newspapers would cease to function. Yet, while competition does exist, there is also the feeling of helping one another when the situation arises.

Last Monday afternoon the Compugraphic at the Gazette-Times suddenly stopped dead. Calls were placed to Seattle asking for a solution to the problem. They asked us to check some of the various components which we did, all to no avail as the machine refused to cooperate. Without the services of the machine it would have been impossible for this newspaper to print its paper. We received a phone call from Seattle, telling us the service man would arrive in Heppner Wednesday morning to find and repair the trouble. If we had waited for the service man to repair the machine, the paper would not have been printed until Thursday and most of our subscribers would not have received their paper until Friday or Monday.

Our paper is printed in Pendleton at the East Oregonian, so a hurried call was placed to the E.O. Tuesday afternoon asking for their assistance. We were notified that when we arrived with our copy they would have the necessary help to transfer the copy into newsprint. We arrived at 7 p.m. Tuesday evening and the two E.O. employees worked getting the paper for the Gazette-Times ready until 10 p.m. that evening. Without having to look too closely, you may have noticed the difference in the type in the paper and perhaps a few errors. This is not the fault of the E.O. or any of their staff who helped during our time of emergency, but rather mine, as I did not proof read all of the material that went into the newspaper, as I did not have the time, so for any errors, my apologies.

For the fine cooperation of the staff and management of the E.O. all I can say is, "Last week's Gazette-Times was brought to all of you through the courtesy of the East Oregonian, and to all of them our Thanks."

Now that Spring vacation is just around the corner, one of the most frequent phrases about the home will probably be, "Gee I wish I had something to do." For those who have the urge to do something during spring vacation, perhaps some of the trash could be piled on the sidewalk and arrangements could be made to have the trash hauled to the city dump. Almost every home in the area has an abundance of weeds, clippings, a few bottles and tin cans about the yard. If some of the home owners took the time to place the trash on the sidewalk it would be taken away... free of charge. What better way to celebrate the Bicentennial year than with a clean city.

For the umpteenth time the Corps of Engineers and interested persons will meet at the Morrow County Courthouse to discuss pros and cons of Willow Creek Dam. This issue has been hashed, trashed and rehashed over and over during the past 35 years and all to no avail. When the people of the community were in favor of the dam, delegations were sent to Washington, D.C. to testify for the cause. After much hullabaloo and promises that the dam would be constructed to save the people of Heppner from further floods, the bill was vetoed by President Ford. It will be interesting to see how many people attend the Willow Creek Dam meeting this Friday night to meet with the Corps of Engineers and discuss the project. Each year or two the issue is presented to the people and the only change in the project is the cost of construction.

NOTES FROM OREGON PASTLEMAN'S ASSOC.

According to a recent USDA survey, coyotes killed 735,000 lambs last year in 15 western states. This was equivalent to 10 per cent of the total lamb crop. Coyotes also killed 230,000 mature breeding sheep and also have a distinct taste for newborn calves.

The survey was authorized by Congress and based on reports from more than 9,000 sheep producers in the 15 western states, including Oregon. Coyotes are capable of killing 400 pound calves, game animals as well as house cats and poultry.

More than 200 Oregon cattle producers will be surveyed between March 5-April 1 by the USDA. This is part of a nation wide survey to gather information to indicate beef production costs. According to USDA, survey results will help identify production needs and establish priorities for energy and other requirements for the production of beef cattle.

More than 130 OCA Directors and CowBelles attended their respective meetings in Portland, last month. Action taken by the Board of Directors included: opposing the initiative petition banning corporate farming in Oregon; went on record deploring the fact that 47 million pounds of excess foreign beef was shipped into the U.S. during the last quarter of 1975—Directors are requesting Congress and the Administration to deduct these excess overages from the 1976 import quota; requested more agricultural input into the Land Conservation and Development Commission; went on record to support efforts of other western grazing states to reserve the trend and stop the movement by various environmental groups which are out to prohibit and restrict livestock grazing on federal ranges; requested federal action in regards to increasing number of wild horses which are now forcing reduction of cattle numbers on public lands in Oregon and other western states. BLM has stated that in many areas where there is a lack of forage on public lands, if it is a case of whether the cattle or the horses must be taken off, the cattle must be removed. This is their decision.

REP. SIMPSON VISITS COLUMBIA BASIN

Rep. Max Simpson, D-Baker, announced today the Agri-Business Subcommittee, of which he is chairman, will visit the Columbia Basin on Mar. 29-30 to study the impact of corporate farming in the area.

The subcommittee was formed to assess the extent of corporate farming in Oregon and its impact on Oregon's consumers, communities, and family farms. In addition to hearings in Salem and Portland, the subcommittee has met in Baker, Ontario, Medford and Klamath Falls. Following further meetings, the subcommittee will report its findings and recommendations, to the Legislative Committee on Trade and Economic Development, chaired by Sen. Mike Thorne, Pendleton.

The members will tour farms and processing facilities in the Basin area Monday, Mar. 29. A public hearing will be held in Thompson Hall at the Umatilla County Fairgrounds in Hermiston, Tuesday, Mar. 30, 9:30 a.m. Rep. Simpson urges all interested persons to attend and testify. Persons wishing further information should contact the Legislative Committee on Trade and Economic Development, 319 State Capitol, Salem, OR 97310, or phone 578-8811. Simpson said.

SEN. JERNSTEDT

State Sen. Ken Jernstedt was in Washington, D.C. last week to represent the Oregon Senate at the National Conference of State Legislatures. Jernstedt is serving on the Intergovernmental Relations Committee which seeks to maintain open communications between states and the federal government.

The legislators from every state met in small task forces to review actions and proposals by Congress and the Administration which affect the states.

The National Conference on State Legislatures acts as a lobby organization at the federal level representing state interests.

Keynote speaker at the conference was Sen. Hubert Humphrey.



"Tough Luck, Jerry. You Missed Again!"

The mail pouch

EDITOR:

For several months the Gazette-Times has been generous in giving space in the paper for articles by the staff of Morrow County Mental Health Services. These have been very helpful in explaining the work of the clinic and giving a view of how the needs of many members of the community are met. The staff and the advisory committee greatly appreciate the coverage given by the Gazette-Times.

Because Mr. Hirni and Mr. Angermeyer wrote articles dealing mostly with processes and types of treatment and therapy I would like to give a more comprehensive view of the clinic to those who would like to know about the total operation.

In 1972 the Eastern Oregon Comprehensive Community Mental Health Center was awarded a federal grant to establish a thirteen county mental health program. For the past three and one-half years the Morrow County office has been a part of the Umatilla County Clinic. Because it will be economically advantageous for Morrow County, our office will separate from Umatilla County, July 1, 1976. We will retain all the benefits of back-up resources from the Eastern Oregon Comprehensive Community Mental Health Center. The Center's program was seen by the Federal Site Inspection team as being a model for rural mental health services and was given a rating of "Outstanding."

Locally, during 1975 the Morrow County Mental Health office had 167 new admissions. Although, nationwide, only 20 per cent of patients seeking treatment in community mental health clinics stay in treatment longer than 5 visits, 79 per cent of those who sought the services of our office stayed in treatment over 5 visits or until the patient and therapist thought treatment should be terminated. Currently there are 57 active patients. Types of problems treated include marital, alcohol, suicidal, depression, family, drugs, delinquency, bedwetting, sexual problems, arson and child abuse.

In addition to the two professional staff people in the local office, we have the once a month services of a psychiatrist. Since July 1975 Dr. William Roberts has had the resources of the two community hospitals in Pendleton where he can admit patients for 5-14 days to regulate medication before returning them to their homes. The total program is designed to be as least disruptive to the patient's daily living as possible while providing care and treatment.

Clients of the Morrow County Mental Health office and members of the advisory board feel that this human service agency is giving the kind of preventive and corrective help that is badly needed by the community. We want to thank the Gazette-Times again for their support.

ALOHA DeSPAIN,
Member of the Advisory Committee

EDITOR:

I want to let you know how much I enjoy your paper. As a former Spray resident, I especially enjoy the addition of the Spray News. I hope it will continue.

We are also former lone residents for a short time. I enjoy your news even though I remember only a few of the people.

I am interested in the hospital news as I was a nurse there. Although it isn't the biggest hospital, it has to be one of the best.

I really miss that section of the country. Hope to move back some day.

MRS. JAMES BURRIS
Vancouver, WA

EDITOR:

Truly enjoy receiving the Gazette Times here in Izmir, Turkey. We are always a month behind but through no fault of yours. We have had interesting and exciting experiences, which we will cherish the rest of our lives. As for our relatives and friends in the Heppner area, we want you to know that even though we are many miles apart our love for you is in our hearts.

THE PELESKYS
Bill, Mona Lisa & Paul
U.S. Air Force
Izmir, Turkey

EDITOR:

I visit and renew acquaintanceship with senior citizens, formerly from Morrow County that live in this home away from home. They said to receive their own personal Gazette-Times would be like someone visiting each week or a letter from home.

Morrow County's Newspaper is the ideal gift for that newly married couple. God knows—American homes are being so brain washed by television, it's time we began to read some excellent, thought provoking literature.

Robert Burnside came to Heppner, Oregon with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Burnside and two brothers and a sister from Kansas in 1910. They moved to Rood Canyon where they farmed the Allen and Asbaugh ranches. A brother and sister were born there. Robert attended grade school in the Rood Canyon District. Then spent two years at the Hardman High School where there were 35 students. Hardman had an outstanding football team, noted for its knock-down drag-out tactics.

Robert Burnside married Gladys Allstott and to this union were born two boys and one girl. Robert engaged in farming and worked in saw mills, later moving to Hermiston where he was employed at Umatilla Army Depot as a fork lift operator.

Robert and Gladys will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary April 3, 1976.

Gladys' parents, Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Allstott, Sr., a brother and 2 sisters migrated from the Indian Territory (Oklahoma) to Heppner, Oregon in the fall of 1903. Mr. Allstott purchased a timber culture claim of 160 acres and property from a Mr. Gerkin in Eight-Mile. They added to their holdings several thousand acres of land and were engaged in raising cattle, sheep, hogs and wheat.

Dad was not much of a Bible reading man, but he really practiced what he read—Genesis: 1-28 "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth and subdue it" etc. So there were 12 of us younguns and all were boys but 8.

The Columbia River water has awakened the sleeping giant—Morrow County.

There are many exciting things happening in Heppner—to name a few, well supervised schools, shopping centers, swimming pool, museum (one of the best), police force, Churches, good clean restaurants, dedicated councilmen and mayor and judge that have both feet on the ground.

An editor and publisher of your local newspaper, that doesn't agree with everything they print, but believes in freedom of the press.

If you don't want it printed in the Heppner Gazette, do not let it happen.

ROBERT E. ALLSTOTT
Hermiston.

Letters for publication should be addressed to the Editor, The Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, OR. 97836. All letters are subject to abridgement and must be signed and carry an address. Short letters, typed double spaced are preferred, but all letters will be considered. We do not publish third person letters or anonymous ones.

Mayor of Hardman

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

I don't know nothing and I git that mixed up, Mister Editor, and my memory is even worse than it used to be. But I can't recollect a single important domestic problem that our Federal Government has actual solved in the last 30 years. And any Congressman will tell you that our record of success in dealing with matters at home is remarkable good compared to what we've been able to have our way in foreign affairs since we did manage to solve the World War II problem in our favor.

Problems come up ever day, and we see em wrote up in the papers, but we don't ever hear of remedies that work. What we hear is that Congress subsidizes it, passes it to some agency or announces that it is the Ford Administration's fault. Then the President vetoes whatever action the Congress took, and that problem is replaced by the next problem.

This matter of spending the buck or passing it as the only way to deal with problems come up at the country store Saturday night. Clem Webster said the only practical action he could recall out of Congress was some years back when somebody said Congress ought to name a committee to count the gold in Fort Knox twice a year. That was amended a few times. Clem recalled, and when they final worked it out they was going to count the gold reserves twice a month, and the Congress said that was a waste of taxpayers money and a committee's time, cause we would know from month to month if any had been took. The last Clem heard, the gold-counting bill was still pending somewhere in the pipeline.

General speaking, the fellers was full agreed that as much positive thinking gits done around the stove in the store than in the halls of Congress, and about as much comes of one as the other. Ed Doolittle took note of two problems that he claimed he had come as close to solving as Congress and the Ford Administration together. One was the energy shortage and the other was the job shortage. The last he heard, Ed said, they were talking of taking the price ceiling off natural gas so the companies could charge what they please to raise money to look where they please for more gas. As for jobs, the Congress put \$6.2 billion into providing 600,000 public make-work jobs. The President vetoed that, so Congress come back with \$6 billion to create 280,000 jobs. In a month, Ed allowed, the cost of creating jobs doubled, so no wonder we got seven million folks out looking fer work.

Meanwhile, the Congress is jumping on the crime problem by coming up with a 753-page bill to reform the criminal laws. It is called the "Be Nice to your Neighborhood Burglar Bill." What the "Protection of Persons" part of the bill does is spell out the burglar's rights and warns the property owner being burgled that "use of force is not justified under this section."

Yours truly,
MAYOR ROY.

Pet Rock insurance

In response to numerous inquiries concerning insurance for pet rocks, Western Information Insurance Information Service a non profit consumer education service offers the following information. First, WIIS assures pet rock owners, their pet rock is usually covered under a typical homeowner's policy. If the pet rock has any special abilities or qualities that increase its value, it should probably be listed as a special item on your policy.

Typically, a homeowner's policy includes insurance on the dwelling, "appurtenant structures" (garages, guest houses, sheds, etc.) furniture, personal property (your pet rock would come under this category) and extra living expenses incurred as a result of a fire or other occurrence.

An additional advantage of the homeowner's policy is the coverage you get for personal liability plus medical payments for someone who might be injured on your property. It also includes protection for damage you might do accidentally to another person's property.

This means that, heaven forbid, should your pet rock bite a child on your property, you would be protected by your homeowner's insurance. Or, if your pet rock should be practicing a difficult trick and

accidentally fly through your window, your insurance company would pay for the damage. You must, of course, be able to prove that the damage was the result of an accident.

Suppose your pet rock is playing dead on the stairway and doing it so well that he is not noticed by a friendly visitor skipping cheerfully down the steps, and that this visitor trips on your pet rock and falls down the rest of the 20 steps. Again, you are protected by your insurance.

If your pet rock is stolen, even though its sentimental value could never be replaced, you would be compensated. There might be a deductible on your policy though, and you should be sure that you're familiar with the coverage you have.

If you find your policy hard to understand, ask your agent to explain all its details to you. You might be one of the many people who now have revised, easy-to-read policies since many companies are now offering this additional benefit.

Anyone wanting a speaker on Homeowner's Insurance can get a free speaker by calling the WIIS Speaker's Bureau, (503) 643-6355, Beaverton, which services all of Oregon.

Property tax reduction programs

April 1 is the deadline to apply for three property tax reduction programs—residential deferral, senior citizen's deferral and veteran's exemption, and Oregon Department of Revenue Director John J. Lobdell alerts all qualified taxpayers.

The residential deferral was adopted by the 1975 legislature to reduce property taxes for persons whose homes are located in areas zoned for commercial or industrial land use. If a person's application for a single-family residential assessment is accepted, the land is valued as if it were zoned residential which generally has a lower tax rate. The special assessment applies to land only, not the buildings.

However, the taxes are merely deferred. When the home is disqualified, such as by transfer of ownership, back taxes are calculated based on the commercial or industrial value of the land at the time of

the transfer and at the latest tax rate. This figure is multiplied by the number of years, up to 10, the land was on the special assessment.

The senior citizen's deferral allows persons 62 and over to avoid payment of property taxes as long as they live on the property. Taxes plus accrued interest at six per cent per year must be paid when the property no longer qualifies for the deferral.

Veterans of the Spanish-American, Philippine Insurrection or Boxer Rebellion; certain disabled veterans and widows of veterans may have \$7,500 of their residential property value exempted from taxation. This can provide a substantial tax benefit for veterans and their widows. The reduced taxes do not have to be paid back.

Further information and application forms are available at the offices of county assessors.

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