

FROM THE CORNER



By ERNIE CERESA

During the past months that I have put this paper together, I have heard many comments from our subscribers. Most of them say, "The format of the paper never changes, we always know what is going to be on the front and other pages of the paper." Some advertizers have asked if their ads could be placed on the front page and if not why not. Some of our correspondents have indicated they want their stories placed on certain pages of the paper, while others contend the front page and the classified advertising page are the only pages some people read.

This edition of the paper falls on April 1, and the merchants in Heppner are having a Moonlight Sale tonight from 7-9 p.m., advertising some goofy bargains, so we decided to go along with our advertizers and completely change this edition of the paper. Every page will be the front page. Although they will be numbered Front Page 1, Front Page 2, etc., we hope to please all of our subscribers and advertizers as all items of interest will appear on the Front Page. Contrary to all standards of journalism layout, ads have been placed at random with news items surrounding the ads.

What possessed us to do this zany deed? Well the last time April 1 fell on a Thursday was in 1971. April 1, will fall on Thursday again in 1982, 1993 and in 1999 so you see we just couldn't resist the opportunity. To our subscribers and advertizers, our apologies for this one issue. If I can get the troops out of their complete state of shock we will have the newspaper back to normal the following week.

Statements by W.C. Harris, Master of the Oregon State Grange brought replies and rebuttals to some of the statements presented in last week's paper on his views regarding the initiative to restrict corporate farming in Oregon.

Following are some of the views taken by Mr. Harris printed in the Oregon Journal, March 10, 1976.

He flatly refuted claims that the proposals would prevent large timber companies from selling grazing rights to cattlemen.

Timber corporations are exempted completely, he insisted. The big companies can lease the land for pasture provided the land was purchased for timber purposes. But the big timber companies can't farm.

He attempted to clarify one restriction on the wood products firms: Christmas tree farms.

Growing trees is farming he contended, and would be outlawed for the timber corporations.

"We didn't intend to allow the timber companies to compete with small Christmas tree farmers," he said, "We intended this business to be restricted."

And on other tree nurseries: Our intent is to allow the timber companies to grow trees for themselves with no limitations on acreage, as long as they grow trees to maturity.

"But if they plan to operate nurseries for experimental purposes or to grow seedlings for sale, they would be limited to nurseries of not more than 160 acres."

The problem arises from the definition of "timber lands" on the initiative. The Oregon forest laws under ORS 477.205 defines "grazing land" and "timber land" and ORS 526.324 establishes the classification of forest land into 3 classes, in which Class 3, Agricultural Class includes forest land primarily suitable for grazing.

Following is an explanation by Attorney General Lee Johnson to the question: "Does farming include the use of pasture lands for grazing, when the pasture lands are open areas, meadows or hillsides surrounded by or adjacent to timber lands?"

Section 1(3) exempts "... The use of timber lands for pasture." This question goes to the definition of timber lands, not defined in the Article. The exemption obviously reaches lands on which the trees are widely separated or sparse enough so that grass will grow and livestock grazes beneath or between the trees. But there are small and large openings in timber land that contain no trees, and areas adjacent to timber land, which contain no trees. Timber companies owning such lands and leasing them for grazing purposes would be required either to terminate the leases before the act becomes effective, perhaps paying penalties to do so, or divest themselves of the land, unless they fall within the definition of "timber land."

The Article itself contains nothing to help answer the question. We suppose that a small open glade completely surrounded by forest would be deemed to be "timber land." How large it could be before it ceases to be timber land is a question we cannot answer. It is possible that any land classified as forest land by the State Forester, or land paying fire protection assessments would qualify.

In answer to question 16, if the land is suitable and intended for future reforestation, this could be sufficient non-farm purposes justifying retention and interim lease to another for farming. The same considerations may apply to any land, even if not suitable for timber, if because of its location ownership by another would impede forestry practices or create hazards.

The Gazette-Times will henceforth carry the following disclaimer on its masthead: "This newspaper is published, and rather successfully, too, without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, age, marital status, physagogue addition, professional ability, religion, physical handicap, medical condition, pigmentation (hair and/or skin), political persuasion, literacy, previous condition of servitude, citizenship, criminal record, club membership, ancestry, incest, outcestry, agnosy and (thoo boy!) Sex."

SMELT CAUSE PROBLEMS

Smelt, selling for six pounds for \$1, are costing operators of the Trojan Nuclear Plant a good bit more than that in time and effort.

Under the technical specifications governing operation of the 1.1 million kilowatt generating facility, any time more than 20 fish are found in or near water intake structures in a 24 hour period, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission must be notified.

That has happened three times since March 12. The smelt, or eulachon as known to aquatic biologists, are mostly spawned out females. They have been collected in wash water from the water intake screens.

Twenty-nine fish were counted on March 12, 30 on the 17th and 21 on the 18th—all of them smelt.

Now PGE environmental management personnel and consultants from Beak Consultants Inc., have a problem: fish collections are counted five days a week and Monday has a three-day accumulation. Last Monday at 3 p.m. there were 61 fish in the counting area. Sixty-one divided by three equals 21 and a third. The question is, to report or not to report.

PGE spokesmen said a report would probably be made. Prior to the beginning of the smelt run, only 16 fish had been collected since July 31, 1975 when the counting operation began. Included were two crappie, two American shad and 12 sculpin (bullhead).

THE

Happy Birthday Sharon Lee!

GAZETTE-TIMES



HOSPITAL NOTES

Patients admitted to Pioneer Memorial Hospital this past week were: Esther Havkost and Van Hubbard, both lone; Carolyn Howard, Lexington; Mary Benson, Kinzua; Linda Sineris, Linda Connor, Bruce Wallis and Gary Watkins, all of Heppner.

Patients dismissed were Roy Campbell, Lexington; George Duke, Fossil; Bryan DeRoest, Bert Corbin and Alma Green, all of Heppner.

BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Franklin Murray, Heppner, are the parents of a daughter, Tina Rena, 7 lbs. 1 1/2 oz., born March 26.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Murray, Heppner, and Mr. Richard Savage, Baker.



weather

	Hi	Low	Prec.
Wednesday	51	39	.03
Thursday	50	33	
Friday	46	33	.08
Saturday	47	31	
Sunday	47	31	.04
Monday	56	28	
Tuesday	67	37	

WHEAT

White	3.52 Apr.
Red	3.64 Apr.
Barley	97.00 Apr.

MUSEUM HOURS INCREASED

During the winter months the County Museum has been open to the public weekends only. March 15 Mrs. Harnett went to spring hours. Now in addition to Saturday and Sunday, the public is invited to view the museum Monday and Wednesday afternoons between 1-5 p.m.

During the summer vacation time, the museum will add Thursday evening hours to its schedule. An increasing number of out-of-town people are coming to visit the museum.

FISHING RESTRICTIONS ADOPTED BY FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

Faced with a federal court order and the prospects for continued weak runs of chinook salmon and summer steelhead in the Columbia River, the Fish and Wildlife Commission at its March 19 hearing imposed restrictions that will affect both commercial and sport fishermen.

Biologists expect returns of salmon and steelhead destined for the upper Columbia River and its tributaries to be as weak or weaker than the poor runs last year. In view of this the Commission adopted a closure on chinook salmon angling in the Columbia, Deschutes, and Snake rivers which will go into effect on April 1. On the Columbia the closure will extend until July 31 below Bonneville Dam and August 7 above that point. The Deschutes will remain closed through July 31 and the Snake River and its tributaries will be closed through December 31. The closure includes jack chinook salmon (those 12 to 20 inches in length) as well as adult chinook salmon.

Summer steelhead angling will also close in the main stem Columbia, Snake and Snake River tributaries on April 1. That closure will continue through September 30 below Bonneville Dam and through the end of 1976 above that point. The Willamette and Deschutes rivers are not closed to summer steelhead angling.

Restrictions on ocean fishing were also adopted in order to comply with Federal Circuit Court Judge Belloni's decision which requires agencies to provide Columbia River treaty Indians with an opportunity to fish for at least 50 per cent of the salmon and steelhead destined for the upper river.

Ocean sport salmon angling will begin on May 1 instead of the April 10 date listed in the 1976 regulations synopsis. In addition, the minimum size limits for sport-caught salmon north of Tillamook Head were changed and are now the same as those set by Washington. Chinook salmon must be at least 24 inches and coho salmon 16 inches. The minimum for both species previously was 20 inches. No minimum size restrictions are in effect south of Tillamook Head.

North of Tillamook Head the commercial ocean troll salmon season will open on May 1 for chinook salmon and extend through May 31. After a full-month June closure the season will reopen on July 1 and extend through September 15 for both chinook and coho salmon. The seasons amount to a three-month reduction in the chinook season and a coho season two months shorter than last year.

South of Tillamook Head the commercial troll season for chinook salmon will begin on May 1 and extend through October 31. The commercial coho season will begin on June 15, the same as last year, and extend through October 31.

Minimum sizes for commercially caught salmon off the Oregon coast were set at 26 inches for chinook and 16 inches for coho. The commission also redefined the method by which commercially caught salmon must be measured.

The Commission set the regulations following a public hearing which lasted more than 12 hours. More than 500 persons packed the hearing hall at the Western Forestry Center, many standing because of the crowded conditions. Commercial fishermen from California and Washington, as well as Oregon, were present.

ALASKA

Our Morrow County friends are invited to join Jim and Dorotha Barratt (who grew up in Heppner) on future Jim Barratt tours. For around \$1000 a person, you may join us and a party of 40 for an Alaskan adventure June 15-25 using air, land, rail and sea (and perhaps even a dog sled!) We'll fly from Portland to Anchorage on June 15 by WAL jet. Changing into levis and Pendleton shirts, we'll go inland by chartered bus to such scenic splendors as Portage Glacier, Alyeska ski resort, McKinley Park, Fairbanks, Whitehorse in the Yukon, and then ride the narrow-gauge railroad into Skagway.

Final four days and nights for the "frolicing forty" will be aboard the fabulous *Island Princess* cruise ship of British registry. We'll cruise south to Glacier Bay through the inland pass with a day's port-of-call at Sitka before berthing at Vancouver Harbor June 25. Jet back to Portland. Excited?

Note these future Jim Barratt tours! October 18-29, Mexican Riviera cruise with free airfare Portland-LA and return. Five ports-of-call at Mexican coastal resorts including weekend at Acapulco. In early January, back-to-back tours to Pasadena for the Rose Bowl and Super Bowl with sightseeing options.

For brochures and details, contact:
 Jim Barratt, Sales Manager
 AWAY TRAVEL SERVICE
 801 S.E. Chicago St.,
 Albany, OR 97321
 Office Phone: 938-8828, Home 928-4466

Mayor of Hardman

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

Out here in the country, the mail ain't a bit more important to us than the hoses hooked to them fellers out in space. Our mailboxes are treasure chests, so natural we are concerned about anything having to do with whither and how we git our mail. So the state of the U.S. Postal Service natural had a high place on the agender at the country store Saturday night.

It use to be, declared Ed Doolittle, that when a real crazy idee come up in Congress, there was somebody around to put a stop to it. Now it looks like the crazier the notion, the more determined everybody is to carry it out. Ed was of a mind that when it comes to mail service, Congress is like the lawman that leaped in his saddle and galloped off in all directions. The lawmakers, Ed said, have lost sight of their goal so they have doubled their effort.

To make matters worse, Clem Webster allowed, the post office people ain't doing anything to help theirselves. Clem said the last he heard the postmaster general had come up with the idee that the way to improve mail service was to give less service and that daily delivery was a "luxury" the country can't afford and don't need. With this kind of April fool thinking, declared Clem, it's no wonder we pay him \$65,000 a year.

The mail is expected to spent \$1.4 billion more than it takes in this year, and 85 per cent of the Postal Service's \$14.2 billion budget is going for wages. But Clem pointed out all these people are being paid to handle less mail. The volume of mail is dropping, and this is causing the \$85,000 a year men to hatch up more idees. Like spending \$15 million to run ads to encourage folks to mail more letters. This comes on sideways, cause letters is the mail the post office people say needs the most handling and cost the most. That's where they lose money. Back when private outfits started delivering packages, the post office said they were taking the cream and leaving the mails with the high-cost work. Now they want to build up a service they want to cut back on because it loses money.

Zeke Grubb said one plan the Postal Service come up with made sense, and that was to cut out hundreds of little post offices where services of larger offices overlap. The postal people said no post office would be closed unless equal or better service could be provided.

So what Congress does, said Zeke, is use to make the Postal Service keep all those little post offices open. The same Congress that has give the mails until 1980 to reach break-even operation blocks a move that would help the mails do what Congress says it must do.

Folks were appointed to run them little post offices, Zeke said, and upsetting them in a election year ain't what Congressmen call a public service. Closing post offices is like closing army bases. It's a wise economic move in somebody else's district.

Yours truly,
MAYOR ROY.

LENT. WHAT IS IT?

By Father John O'Brien
St. Patrick's Church

The Season of Lent is a season during which we should strive to become closer to Almighty God. The forty days of Lent commemorate the 40 days and nights Jesus spent in the desert praying and fasting in preparation for His final steps in the work of the Redemption of Mankind. His death on the cross and His Resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday. His mission on earth was accomplished and He was to return to His Heavenly Father.

In worldly affairs all good businessmen spend time and money stock-taking so they may know exactly their financial position. This is essential in all lines of business. I wonder how many of us spend any time spiritually stocktaking, trying to find out how we stand in the sight of Almighty God. Are we striving to keep the laws of Almighty God, are we faithful in giving Almighty God public homage by attending the Church of our choice, are we showing charity towards our neighbor, in a word are we trying to live a true Christian life.

Many of us, because we fail to reflect on our spiritual life drift along with the world and never seriously consider our last end, the salvation of our immortal souls. Remember scripture reminds us that death-bed repentances are few. "As a man lives so shall he die."

We are more than half way through this Holy Season. Let us be honest with ourselves and if we are in the red spiritually, let us do something about it while there is still time. Remember the warning from Scripture, "What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and suffers the loss of his immortal soul?"

BAND FESTIVAL CONCERT

Saturday, April 3, 7 p.m.

High School Gym.
Admission 50 cents

- * 15 schools attending from a five county area
- * 2 mass groups, over 300 musicians

Guest conductors:

Dr. John Richards,
Lewis & Clark University
Mr. Del Chinburg,
North Salem High

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