



Communications
& Comments

Ione ignored

EDITOR:

I, like many others, have noted that the Heppner Gazette-Times ignores Ione.

Examples noted:

Terry McElligott was chosen counselor for Girl's State, something only six girls out of the state can receive. Was there an article as promised? (I know for a fact one woman called at least three times to "remind" the paper staff about this. She was told, "Don't worry I have a good picture to put in of her." It was never put in.) There is a very simple reason too, she lives in Ione.

The East Oregonian had a much bigger story about the Annual United Church of Christ Barbecue. \$9,478 were taken in for the church, from both the auction and booths inside that sold items.

Awards Night, an annual event of Ione High, had one paragraph—featuring only one person. What about all the other awards that were won? Who got those? Does the Gazette care? If you don't, I do.

Did you post the times of the pool opening or that swimming lessons started? Must Julie Nelson do everything concerning Ione? She does a good job with her column, but can't be expected to do everything.

I know you'll never print this, but please remember there are more places in the county than Heppner, and maybe exciting things happen in more places than Heppner—so report it, write it up, acknowledge the facts!!!!

JANET McELLIGOTT,
Ione

Simple mathematics

EDITOR:

Enclosed you will find a check to renew my subscription to the Gazette-Times for one more year. I had made up my mind I would not be foolish and waste \$6 again, but then I did some simple mathematics, and realized that nowhere else would I be able to get a year's supply of bird cage liner so cheap. (And delivered to my door, none the less!)

By the way . . . my birds love your newspaper.

GREG DAVIDSON

Despot wants power

EDITOR:

As long as there are people, there will be those that strive to enslave others, despots they are called. If you are lucky enough to provide the necessities, comforts, or luxuries you are satisfied. The despot wants nothing more. He wants power, as well.

From the time our constitution was first drawn up and we drew our first free breath, plans were being made to enslave the world in a crueler enslavement than that inflicted upon any British subject. Notice that England was made to give up her possessions, the Nazis were forced to free their conquests.

However nothing is being done about freeing the people under communist domination. People know that the communist record of cruelty is far more horrible than the Nazis.

Communist aggression marches steadily forward with no opposition from America. In fact it has America's blessings. The Rockefeller backed United Nations says what peace is to be and that is no resistance to communism.

Everyone must take sides either to be free or to be a slave. If you choose to do nothing, you are slave material. No one can question the fact that the man with gumption enough to take care of himself is under attack.

When the man with gumption enough to take care of himself is taxed and regulated out of existence than the country is dead. Any country that is not free is dead or worse than dead.

HAZEL GUDGER
Brookings, OR.

THE GAZETTE-TIMES HEPPNER

Editorial & Viewpoint

Straub straight forward

Not often do state officials come up with more "yes" and "no" answers than "I'm not sure but I'll find out later." Gov. Bob Straub did Tuesday.

Oregon's governor shot a straight forward type arrow at Eastern Oregon county officials Tuesday morning. He didn't stray much in the town hall meeting at noon either.

Straub was literally blunt with questions and came quickly to the point on most. The ones that escaped him were either readily answered by Jack Sumner, legislator for this area or received vows from Straub to find the answer and get back to the question.

Some interesting answers did come from Straub, including an admitted "negative attitude" on nuclear power.

Straub, a little to the surprise of his audience, said "I am negative towards nuclear power. I can't be wildly positive when I don't feel that way. He referred to Pebble Springs.

Straub also came out saying that his "honest appraisal" on Alumax coming to Eastern Oregon was "at best, doubtful."

Straub received praise and criticism and took both like a governor of a state should. He was asked questions from secondary highway repairs to septic tank inspections by environmentalists to gas tax to department of commerce woes.

On just about all of them, he had an answer ready or said he would find one.

Heppner, Oregon, population 1500, doesn't have too many chances to see high state officials, particularly governors. The city met him warmly and sent him on his Eastern Oregon tour warmly.

It was good to see Salem interest in Morrow County and it was even better to see Morrow County interest in Salem.

Packwood explains tax

DEAR FRIEND:

As one who is most likely to be affected by estate taxes, you should be made aware of recent efforts to relieve the estate tax burden.

For too long the businessmen and farmers of the country have had to endure an outdated, burdensome and counterproductive estate tax. The current law provides that up to \$60,000 of an estate is exempt from taxes. Amounts beyond that level are heavily taxed when the owner dies and passes the estate to his heirs. In 1942, when this exemption was passed, a \$60,000 business was a relatively large one. Now due to inflation, and the cost of land, wages, and equipment a \$60,000 exemption is reduced in value. Estate taxes often cause the forced sale of the business or farm, or a part of it, merely to pay the taxes.

In April, I sent out a questionnaire asking whether Oregonians favor easing the present tax burden on estates. Approximately 96 per cent of the respondents approved of granting such relief.

The proposal I have sponsored was approved by the Senate Finance Committee June 11. It replaces the present \$60,000 exemption with a \$30,000 credit. The credit

increases over four years to \$50,000 by 1981. At that time, there would be no tax on an estate worth up to \$200,000. If the estate is passed on to a spouse there would be no tax until it was worth over \$400,000.

Some other proposals before Congress would merely increase the exemption. But, as is true of any exemption, this would mean that the largest estates would receive the greatest benefits. A tax credit generally provides the greatest benefits to those who need it the most, the small businesses and farms.

I am extremely encouraged about this proposal's possible success. It has received a great deal of attention and support in the Senate aside from the Finance Committee's approval today. Also, a similar tax credit has been proposed by Congressman Al Ullman, Chairman of the Committee in the House of Representatives which handles tax measures. Together we should be able to provide Oregonians with estate tax relief before the end of the year.

BOB PACKWOOD,
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C.

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Ideas raised

EDITOR:

A very desirable item in an early future issue would be a report of attendance of out-of-town visitors at the Pioneer Picnic. It still would be very newsworthy and timely to all subscribers.

Item in each issue datelined 40 or 50 years ago or even 30. Mrs. Weatherford's articles on History of Morrow County and Heppner Families are very desirable.

Wishing you much success in Morrow County's official newspaper, I remain a faithful subscriber.

CLAIR HAMPTON COX
Class '29
Heppner High School

Club says thanks

EDITOR:

The Soroptimist International, Heppner club, would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to D.O. Nelson for being a great and interesting tour guide for our Senior Citizen and Nursing Home tour and to Leonard Munkers for being our most patient and kind driver of the day.

The tour of the rapidly changing north end of the county was greatly enjoyed, not only by the senior citizens and nursing home patients, but by the club members who were able to make the trip.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
Heppner Club

Forest program ok'd

A \$5 million program to help provide owners of small private forest lands with more modern forest management techniques was approved Tuesday by a Senate appropriations subcommittee. Sen. Mark Hatfield, sponsor of the budget amendment, said the forestry extension program would help insure that new techniques developed in research facilities are available in the field to those who need them.

"Nearly 4.5 million owners of small, non-industrial forests control 59 per cent, or 300 million acres, of the nation's timberland," Hatfield said. "These lands are producing timber at only about one-third of capacity, and about 500,000 acres are lost annually to other uses."

"As we look at a projected demand for wood products of 20 billion board feet by the year 2000, these wood lot owners need better management tools to increase productivity of their lands," Hatfield said.

Hatfield pointed out that forestry research has provided many advanced management techniques, but a bottleneck exists in getting this information into the field. "Forest research funding," he said, "receives 25 times as much money as does any extension education program."

These new funds will be allocated according to the potential productivity and Hatfield said he was confident that Oregon would be "an obvious choice" to receive some funding. The extension program dates back to 1911, but Hatfield said the recent decline of such education extension programs has hurt the timber production efforts of small operations.

In addition, the Agriculture Appropriations subcommittee approved Hatfield's amendments to:

—add \$1 million for forestry research under the McIntyre-Stennis program;
—add \$500,000 for a wind erosion project at Pendleton, Pullman and Pocatello;

—expand plant research at Oregon State University.

Hatfield said that in fiscal year 1976, Oregon received \$261,481 in forest research funds, and that this amount would increase if the \$1 million addition is retained in conference. The House earlier approved \$7.4 million for FY 1977 for the program.

Hatfield said he anticipates no reduction in these budget additions by the full Senate Appropriations Committee or on the Senate floor, but the items must then be reviewed by a Senate-House Conference.

About the picture

No wind, no rain — just bright sun beating down on farmer's pocket book.

(G-T Photo)

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