



By Tom Franks

First I thought it was just the weekly newspaper syndrome, but now I know the horrible truth! Morrow County residents schedule all meetings on Monday and Tuesday nights.

Anything that cannot possibly be jammed into Monday and Tuesday night is allowed to run over into Wednesday. The rule seems to be if it looks official and smells official—schedule it for Monday or Tuesday night.

Wednesday is a toss-up. A gray area between official meetings and social gatherings. Thursday and Friday are party, social, and sports nights. Saturday night is almost strictly a party night.

I recall getting somebody up for church Sunday to face the complaint that Sunday morning always follows Saturday night. The schedule I noted was part of infinite wisdom. I cannot say the same about Monday and Tuesday nights in Morrow County.

WHAT IS TRUTH?

When I was first introduced to philosophy, the great questions of the ages captured my attention. Judging from my grades, this fact remained unknown to my instructors. The thing my instructors didn't take into consideration is my left handedness. Being left handed, my approach to problems appears torturous. That is from the Latin tortuosus, a twisting, and the Greek, atraktos, to spindle. In semi-modern English, I appeared to do with philosophy what some people do with punch cards. I folded, spindled and mutilated.

A right handed person would say it takes me a long time to get to the point.

Aside from the big philosophical question of How Do We Know? I was introduced to the question What is Truth? With a profound sense of duty, I started to answer this question. Unfortunately, I didn't answer it in the allotted time. While

Historical Society discusses trip

Directors and members of the Morrow County Historical Society have discussed plans for an open-to-anyone, spring fieldtrip to historical sites in Portland. Preliminary plans were that a date in March would be arranged. As some preferred a Saturday trip, the date Mar. 19 has been selected.

The society secretary, Ruth McCabe, Ione, has investigated transportation possibilities and found that the round trip fare per person on a highway bus with toilet facilities would come to about \$12—but could be a little under that figure if the bus is filled to capacity. If too few indicate interest in going, the planned trip will not materialize.

Sites that were recommended for viewing were the Pioneer Courthouse in downtown Portland and the Oregon State Historical Society Museum and headquarters on West Park Avenue. It is thought that the bus will need to leave Heppner about 7:30 a.m. and would get folks back here after 11 p.m. that same night.

If you are interested in making such a fieldtrip, please contact Bill Weatherford, 676-5013, before Mar. 10. The bus people have to know very soon how many will plan to go.

Letters

Farmers united

To the Editor:

There was a recent article in your paper about a petition asking some questions about the wheat commission tax. In this article, there was an implication that farm organizations oppose one another.

I want to assure you that in this county we recognize that each farm organization has been organized for a special interest and the members relate to that interest.

Most farmers belong to several farm organizations and at that point wear many hats.

In these very difficult economic times, the farm organizations recognize more and more that they must work together, allow one another their special interest, and get about the business of moving agriculture into an equitable relationship with the rest of the economy.

Sincerely,
Don Peterson
Pres., Oregon National
Farmers Organization

Editor's Note:

The article in question appeared in the Feb. 17 edition of The Gazette-Times and concerned a petition circulated in Morrow County protesting an increase in the wheat assessment from one-half cent to one cent per bushel. It was our intent to make certain that the petition did in fact represent a protest of those who grow wheat—as opposed to membership in a specific farm organization.

There was no intention, nor was it the purpose of the article, to imply that farm organizations oppose one another.

It should be mentioned that the editor comes from an area where there is perhaps less cooperation among farm organizations than there should be.

If the article raised such a doubt in readers' minds, we stand corrected. We are in support of full cooperation among farm organizations. Lack of such cooperation over the years has been the major drawback in obtaining honest prices for growers.

Public views needed

Dear Sir,

The van loaded with 10 Oregon State University students and 2 instructors pulled out of the fog near Ukiah into the sun as it climbed the hill into the Heppner Planning Unit of the Umatilla National Forest. This group was getting a first impression of the forest.

There were thick stands of Lodgepole pine, ravines with mixed conifers, scenic vistas, snowmobilers on one of the many visible trails, and the Tupper work site. The class passed newly cut areas of Ponderosa pine and several mule deer foraging on bitter brush before it descended into the fog near Bull Prairie Recreational Area. These were some of the things that were seen in the forest recently.

The Forest Service is going to formulate a management plan for this unit. It wants your (the public) views on what is important to you and how you want the forest managed. The Oregon State University class will be working with the Forest Service on developing alternatives. There will be a public meeting to discuss ideas on management March 1, 1977, in the Heppner Elementary School all purpose room.

Ann Heck
Forestry Student
Oregon State University

Inspired scriptures

I have just finished reading the Pastor's Corner written by the Rev. Mark Johnson. In regard to the emphasis of the I Found It campaign;

I am no theologian, but I find many scriptures to support searching and finding God, which are not "impressions" but the inspired word of God. (Scripture chapter and verses listed below.)

Yes, God speaks to us through the hearing of His word. We are drawn very close to Him through holy communion and baptism, but in John 14:6 Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth and the life: No man cometh unto the Father but by me." Those who responded to the "I Found It" campaign found new life in Jesus Christ and that is what all evangelical movements should be about.

If we are not to seek and find, but only be found, what do we do with these?

I Ch. 28:9—And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

II Ch. 15:2 and 4—And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you...But when they in their trouble did turn unto the Lord God of Israel, and sought him, he was found of them.

Isaiah 55:6—Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

Jer. 29:13—And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

De. 4:29—But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

II Ch. 7:14—If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Pr. 8:17—I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

Luke 11:9,10—And I say unto you, ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Ho. 10:12—Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

Matt. 6:33—But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Amos 5:4—For thus saith the Lord unto the house of Israel, Seek ye me, and ye shall live.

Zeph. 2:3—Seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger.

Acts 17:27—That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

Virginia Whitaker
Heppner

BMCC budget proposed

The Blue Mountain Community College budget committee Feb. 22 reduced the college's proposed 1977-78 budget by \$35,000, then approved the new figure by unanimous vote.

The budget approved for the coming year is \$3,318,707, an increase of 7.77 per cent over the current figure of

\$3,079,381.

Efforts to reduce the budget figure further failed when board members, who also serve on the budget committee, pointed out that cuts in a proposed new nursing program would be unpopular with many voters because of the need for more nurses in Eastern Oregon. The pro-

gram, which will produce two-year Associate Degree nurses, still has to be approved in Salem.

Attempts to cut student services and classroom instruction were rejected by the committee because each would result in loss of students, reducing income by possibly more than the savings in expenditures.

"The net savings to taxpayers from cuts of this type would be zero," President Ron Daniels explained.

Total amount to be collected by taxes is \$1,858,367, an increase of \$313,108 over the current year's levy. The increase in taxes is greater than the increase in the total budget, Daniels said, because state income will be down.

Although the total true cash value of the college district, Umatilla and Morrow counties, is not yet known, Daniels said he was confident the operating levy would be about \$1.80 per \$1,000 true cash value and the bond redemption levy below 24 cents per \$1,000 true cash value. He said the total increase is expected to be about 26 cents per \$1,000 true cash value.

BMCC has no tax base, therefore, the full amount must be approved by district voters Apr. 19.

Peterson elected again; starts 52nd Jordan year

The annual meeting of the Jordan Elevator Company was held Thursday, Feb. 24. Oscar Peterson, Ione, was elected to another three year term as president of the 59-year-old organization. Peterson has served as a member of the board for 51 years.

The current board includes Kenneth Smouse, re-elected secretary-treasurer, and Fred Nelson, Harold Snider and Marvin Padberg, whose board terms expire in future years.

Forty members and guests feasted on a turkey dinner served by ladies of the Eastern Star and Rainbow Girls of Ione.

The program, "High Food Prices Compared to What?" was presented prior to the business meeting by Mike Howell, Morrow County Extension Service. Oscar Peterson showed slides on his recent trip to South America. Business included plans for plant repairs, visitations to prospective members and special put-through charges for farm storage customers and NFO members. The prospect of dividend payment to stockholders was discussed and left in the hands of directors in view of crop prospects for the coming harvest, it was reported.

Farmers pass test

Nearly 100 per cent of the Morrow County farmers in attendance at a pesticide training program in Heppner Wednesday, Feb. 23, passed the test for a license to handle certain controlled pesticides, according to the Morrow County Extension Service.

The pesticide training program was held at the Fairgrounds. Programs to license users of pesticides have been implemented nationwide in recent years to improve the safety record involved in the application of modern pesticides in agricultural programs.

Tax increase

The counties served by the Columbia Basin Electric Co-op will be receiving an increasing amount of taxes in 1977.

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The Gazette-Times

Editorially speaking

I am not resentful, I never cease to envy those who got an "A" for finding truth in three semester hours.

After all these years, I have found that truth is not found in study, but in living. The first question to be asked is not What is Truth? but rather Where is Truth? It would seem to be common sense that one must be in contact with truth before an attempt can be made to define it.

Truth by the first definition is a state of being true or faithful. The search for truth as an abstract concept, dealing with what is fact or what is reality, now appears to me as a nearly useless process. If there is anything "out there" that is true, it can only be realized from a state of being true—or as Flip Wilson once said, "What you see is what you get."

POUNDS OFF AND ON

I follow with some interest the work of Weight Watchers and TOPS. There are a number of active members of both in the county. TOPS, you know, means Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Within the group are KOPS, who Keep Off Pounds Sensibly.

I have been working on ROBBERS, which is Reheat Old Baked Beans Enduring Rigorous Starvation.

Having weighed upwards of 235 pounds at one time, I entered on a crash diet. Smoke two packs a day, omit breakfast and worry constantly. I call it SOW. It worked. I lost 45 pounds and 10 years.

HOW TO WRITE

They tell me that The Virginian was written in the Heppner Hotel. I would take a room there if I thought the location had that much to do with it. Who knows, maybe somebody is in a Virginia hotel room right now writing The Oregonian.

After writing this, I learned that the hotel in question no longer exists. It makes no difference, because the real secret of writing is the ability to put one word after another, regardless of what hotel you find yourself in.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A good state of mind is the only state worth living in.

Nash's visit family

Wednesday, Feb. 23, Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln Nash were in La Grande with their son, Lyle Jensen, while his wife Pat had major surgery. Mrs. Nash reports that Pat was in surgery seven and one-half hours.

The Nashs returned to Heppner that evening. On Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Palmer, Lyle's sister, and daughter Anita of Ione, and Mrs. Nash and Greg Connor again traveled to La Grande to visit Pat, whom they found on the way to recovery. She told them she will be hospitalized for 10 days.

The Jensen family, former Heppner residents, are remembered by many here.

Hospital Notes

Fifteen persons were admitted or dismissed from Pioneer Memorial Hospital during the past week.

Remaining in the hospital Tuesday were Ladd Dick, Heppner, Richard Lyle Cox, Lexington, and Marguerite Guthrie, Lexington.

Dismissed during the past week were Lisa Griffith, Condon; Jesse Childers, Ione; Robert Shuman, Heppner; James Rouska, Condon; James Phillips, Calif.; Roland Bergstrom, Ione; Barbara Pine, Heppner; Gene Cossitt, Kinzua; Haz Rice, Condon; Van Hubbard, Ione; Jeff Sumner, Heppner; Thomas Kenney, Heppner.

Huff named pres.

Grant W. Perry, senior vice president in charge of First National Bank of Oregon's branch offices east of the Cascades, retires Mar. 1, after 32 years with the bank.

Named to succeed Perry as regional vice president is Bert Huff.

Perry was elected vice president in 1958 and promoted to vice president in charge of the bank's Eastern Oregon branches in 1959. He was named senior vice president in July 1968.

Huff comes to his new post after 23 years with First National, beginning as a commercial teller assigned to the La Grande branch in 1953. In subsequent years, he held various operations and lending positions in the bank's Pilot Rock, Nyssa, Pendleton, Heppner and Klamath Falls branches.

Huff has worked on the regional branch administration level since 1971 and has been assigned to the Eastern Oregon region since last year.

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