



## Above the desk

Above my desk is a bottle of Pepto-Bismol, the editor's only earthly friend.

At one time, I drank it by the bottle without benefit of spoon or clergy. Since arriving in Morrow County, I have had about two ounces of a four ounce bottle in connection with abdominal pains. These I associate with milky water that comes from the tap with the power of a package of Pop Rocks.

The water in Heppner and Boardman checks out at the source, and I can't say that it tastes bad—but I am tired of listening to it.

Anyway, back to the bottle. All day I stare at this bottle. My Scotch blood and Protestant upbringing tell me to finish it because there is another poor editor somewhere else in the world who doesn't have any.

It all started because I once wrote articles (we never call what we do stories) that brought irate people into the office almost daily. They hit the ceiling. I hit the bottle after they left.

Now, I eye the bottle as I attempt to sift what is almost irrelevant from what is totally irrelevant. I no longer write hard-hitting articles and have become known in political circles as a responsible journalist. This is tantamount to being unknown.

Those who write hard-hitting stories, articles, are known as yellow, sometimes dead and almost always underpaid. I digress again.

These people who came foaming into the office showed no concern about my stomach problems and I shared no concern with their apoplexy.

If a public official was using public equipment for personal work, I wrote about it. If I were to hear such a story today, I would be pleased to know that public equipment and public employees are at work somewhere.

I recall a city manager in a certain western town who was making use of city equipment on his farm. Someone else, who wanted to use the city equipment on his place, told me about it. I asked the manager and he told me he was making use of several city items.

Considering the equipment in use, and the equipment of his own which he used in city work, (and the source), I let it pass. Next, I found that he was taking prisoners out of jail to work on his farm. THEN I wrote about the situation. (I didn't need any equipment, but can always use an extra hand, you know.)

Now that I look back, that city manager stands tall in my memory. Not in comparison with what does go on, but with what doesn't go on.

One good example of what doesn't go on is highway improvement in the hinter lands of Eastern Oregon.

Here is how I picture it. The state has solved the road problem in Eastern Oregon. Somewhere in the dim past, a portion of highway funds were used to quietly purchase a warehouse full of triangular signs which read "Rough Road."

Since that year, whenever a local representative beats his fist on the state till, these signs are taken from the secret warehouse and dispatched to Eastern Oregon.

Out here, skeleton crews are charged with putting the signs out and checking them day and night.

Thought for this week: The simple fact is that there are more things going on in this world than there are people to do them. It follows that something else must be afoot.

# Jernstedt views session and workmen's comp bill

Three months have now gone by since the beginning of this session. The "batting average" for action on bills in my committees is as follows: Local Government and Elections, 26 per cent; Environment and Energy, 27 per cent; State and Federal Affairs-Rules, 13 per cent; Labor, Consumer and Business Affairs, 14 per cent. Hopefully, many bills will die in these and other committees. Not every bill proposed should become law. As far as I am concerned, we have too many on the books already—the best government is the least government. Rousseau stated it another way: "Good laws lead to the making of better ones; bad ones bring about worse."

Unless a large percentage of bills die in committee, the situation bodes ill for the future: either a flood of legislation to be hurriedly debated and voted on in the next couple of months, or a session extending into late June or early July.

**Workmen's Comp**  
As a result of cooperation between representatives of farm organizations, labor, and industry, our Labor, Consumer and Business Affairs Committee, of which I am Vice-chairman, will be hearing three new bills (SB 1048, SB 1049, and SB 1050) regarding the thorny problem of Workmen's Compensation. These measures, hopefully, will be palatable to everyone concerned.

They are designed to make current law less onerous to employers, while giving equitable protection to employees. The first two bills affect disability status, benefits and

claims. The third one creates a Workmen's Compensation Department, transfers to its director the administration of Workmen's Compensation Law and Oregon Safe Employment Act, and outlines functions and responsibilities of other organizational changes covered in the bill.

Hearings will be held in the next few weeks on these measures. I would be glad to provide copies of the bills and information about hearing dates to anyone who is interested.

My office phone number is 378-8850. Or you may write me at Room S317, State Capitol Building, Salem, Ore. 97310.

A bill of major significance that passed the Senate this week is SB 92, the Columbia River Compact measure. Heretofore only Oregon and Washington have made decisions concerning spring chinook, and summer chinook and steelhead runs. Now Idaho will be consulted regarding the management of this important resource. This is particularly justified since these are all runs of fish that use Idaho streams for spawning and are being rapidly depleted. This measure is of particular interest to me because of the work that three of us did during the last interim in a Natural Resources

subcommittee to generate pressure for this type of legislation.

**Land Commission**  
Environment and Energy has now held extensive hearings but as yet has taken no action on a number of bills concerning that very controversial agency, (LCDA) (Land Conservation and Development Commission). The governor and legislative leaders promised an overhaul of this agency and its power when they campaigned to keep Ballot Measure 10 (abolishing LCDC) from passing last Fall. I continue to believe that there should be the highest possible degree of local control and the least possible amount of state-level decisions in this area.

We have at least eight separate proposals, totaling over 120 pages. Included in them is one that would eliminate the threat to local governments that the LCDC will take over local planning when state standards are not met. I hope that we will now start work sessions on this important subject. I know that the Chairman of Ways and Means wants changes to be made. He is also on the Environment and Energy Committee and I have the distinct feeling that this session will not end until changes are made.

## Frost cost \$60,000 on co-op system

Columbia Basin Electric Co-op reported that direct costs from the severe "frost storm" in late January and early February resulted in direct costs of approximately \$60,000. Most of this was in labor and equipment costs. However, there were such items as \$800.00 in rope purchased during that time, used in cleaning the lines.

There were many extra cost items, such as: broken extendo sticks; loss of a ladder truck for a period of time; and many, many extra meal costs.

In addition to the direct storm costs, Columbia Basin completely field checked every pole and line in the

"problem" frost areas. This was done to make certain that all necessary line maintenance would be taken care of promptly by Co-op crews. (In the recent severe windstorm two weeks ago, there were no outages in the problem frost areas.) Without the proper maintenance replacement of crossarms, repair of stranded wires, retying of conductor and resagging, there would have been many outages.

A complete line inventory of the "problem" frost areas is currently underway. The Co-op is developing a 5 year plan of spending \$250,000 to improve facilities in those "problem" areas.

## Senate bill labled dangerous in scope

State Senator Ken Jernstedt, R-Dist. 28, told the Gazette-Times this week that he considers Senate Bill 461 "a very dangerous piece of legislation." The bill would both reinforce and extend the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) powers.

"Recently a hearing was held on SB 461. It would allow a judge to issue an administrative inspection warrant to a public officer for investigation and inspection if there was probable cause to believe that a state or local law was being broken," Jernstedt said. "Specimens within my district. This bill would not only reinforce OSHA's powers, but would extend them to other agencies."

"Opponents believe it is a

## Action adds \$32 million for timber

A Senate-House conference committee agreed Monday to additional funding to increase timber sales in National forests. An added \$32 million for timber sales and roads was included in the final version of the 1977 supplemental appropriations bill, according to a joint statement of Sen. Mark Hatfield and Congressman Bob Duncan.

The appropriations bill includes \$3 million to begin timber salvage in Eastern Oregon.

fishing license and unconstitutional as proposed. It appears to me to be a way to circumvent by legislative action recent judicial decisions regarding OSHA inspections. I am very much in opposition.

## Rhea's take Salem tour

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rhea of Lexington and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Myers of Heppner were among 49 persons participating in the Home Extension sponsored tour to the State Legislature March 30, Molly Saul, Extension Home Economist for Morrow and Umatilla Counties reports.

It was the third such Extension sponsored educational tour. The participants observed both the Senate and the House of Representatives and visited legislative committee meetings.

## Luncheon date slated

Annual Cowbelle Spring Luncheon is set for April 13 at the Episcopal Parish Hall in Heppner. The noon luncheon, to be served by the parish women, features a salad buffet. Any interested person can attend the noon luncheon.

## Editorially speaking

# Hospital programs move

Word has been received from Washington that Congressman Al Ullman and other Oregon representatives have given their support to a proposed \$200,000 proposal for expansion of out-patient facilities at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

The report was made at a Friday night, April 1, meeting of the hospital board. The board met to set forth a job description prior to seeking a new hospital administrator. The board agreed to advertise the position at \$20,000, depending on qualifications, with a deadline of May 20 for accepting applications.

The board earlier moved to seek state approval for a \$1,122,735 hospital expansion program.

The plan prepared with the assistance of the Tri-County Health Service has been submitted to the State Health

Planning Office to meet an action deadline of April 15, according to Bob Ewell of the Tri-County office.

## Birth announcements

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Dale Cameron, Heppner, a son, Jason Henry.

Born April 1 at Pioneer Memorial Hospital, he joins a sister Michelle at home.

## Meeting

A meeting of all persons interested in Heppner Community Theatre has been scheduled for the West of Willow Restaurant. The dutch treat session will begin at 6:30 p.m., Monday, April 11, Marsha Matthewson said.

Purpose of the session is to establish by-laws, propose a slate of directors and establish a program for productions during the 1977-78 season.

The planned April production of "You Can't Take It With You" has been cancelled due to problems in scheduling practice for the 17 member cast.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ed Pfennig, Wallace, Ida.; and Mr. Bob Cameron, Pascaill, Ida. Also, Mrs. Barbara Hustoft, Coeur d'Alene, Ida. Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Fannon, Sand Point, Ida., and Pauline Pfennig, Westminster, Colo.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Lee Lankford, a son, Tyson James, March 29, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Jim Lankford, Heppner. Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Dutch Lankford, Pilot Rock, Mrs. Eleanor Debok, Pilot Rock, and Mrs. Agnes Haugen, Echo.

## Letters to the Editor

### Opposition made known

Editor  
Gazette-Times

In recent weeks, there have been several news articles and Letters to the Editor in various Oregon newspapers concerning the recent pay raise for Members of Congress. Because some confusion seems to exist regarding my stand on the matter, I would like to make my position clear to your readers.

I opposed the proposed salary increases because, as did the majority of Oregon residents, I felt such raises were inappropriate in both timing and amount. I am on record as having opposed every pay increase that has been proposed since I entered the Senate in 1967, and I voted to block these pay increases, as well, when the matter was brought to a vote on February 2.

More recently, on March 11, I voted to bar Members of Congress from receiving any cost-of-living increases that may be granted to federal employees in October. This legislation, S.964, is now before the House of Representatives for their consideration. I have indicated my support for salary increases for Federal judges should they be considered separately.

Thank you for this opportunity to explain my position on these issues.

Sincerely,  
Mark O. Hatfield  
United States Senator

## Twenty-six persons enter hospital

Nine persons were admitted and 17 persons dismissed at Pioneer Memorial Hospital during the week ended Tuesday, April 5.

The hospital reported the following admissions: Harlan McCurdy, Heppner; John Butler, Spray; Lester Perry, Condon; Stacey Geer and Tracy Geer, both of Fossil; Duane Grissom, Heppner; Louis Halvorsen, Ione; Richard Peck, Lexington; and Joseph Hoffman, Lexington.

Dismissed during the week were Shirley Rogers, Heppner; Delta Huber, Heppner; Donnie Pine, Heppner; Ralph Fitzpatrick, Condon; Tanya Jones, Heppner; Edward Lipscomb, Pendleton; Charles Carlson, Ione; Shirley George, Heppner; Linda Connor, Heppner; Stewart Maley, Condon; Myrna Collins, Kinzua; Nancy Paine, Heppner; David Gray, Heppner; Paul Hisler, Heppner; David Perrin, Heppner; Alice Majeske, Lexington; Jerry Rollins, Ione.

## Family gives invitation to April wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Harlan McCurdy, Jr., Pomeroy, Wash., cordially invite their friends and relatives to the wedding of their daughter, Janet, to Mr. John Currin, son of Mr. Robert Currin, Pendleton.

The ceremony will take place Saturday, April 16, at two o'clock at Hope Lutheran Church. A reception will follow at the Heppner Elks Club.

## Honor roll includes Heppner duo

Michael A. Mills and Robert F. Worder, both of Heppner, are among 2,031 Oregon State University students listed on the winter term scholastic honor roll.

Students on the honor roll must have earned a 3.5 or better on at least 12 graded hours of coursework.

Mills is a sophomore, majoring in business and Worden a senior, majoring in agriculture.

**THE GAZETTE-TIMES**

Published every Thursday and entered as a second-class matter at the post office at Heppner, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879. Second-class postage paid at Heppner, Oregon.

Will C. Phinney,  
Advertising Manager

Tom Franks,  
Editor

The official newspaper of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow.

G.M. Reed, Publisher

Dolores Reed, Co-publisher

## Easter Sunday

Open for Breakfast 8-11  
(Fruit Breakfast Bar)

Sunday Afternoon Buffet Dinner 12-4

Apricot glazed ham Ham stuffed with fruit & nuts, Sauerbraten roast, Deep fried chicken, Split pea soup, Salad bar with 12 different fruits & vegetables	Mashed potatoes Scalloped potatoes, Potato pancakes, Candied sweet potatoes, Asparagus in cheese sauce, Herbed cauliflower, Corn on the cob,	Apple pie, Lemon pie, Boston creme pie Rolls, Coffee, tea,
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Reservations Accepted

Adults \$5.00  
Children \$2.50  
under 6 \$1.50

Orders to go  
Sandwiches 676-5149  
Pizza 676-5551

Main St. Heppner