

The Official Newspaper of the
City of Heppner and the
County of Morrow

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**The Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES**
Morrow County's Award-Winning Weekly Newspaper

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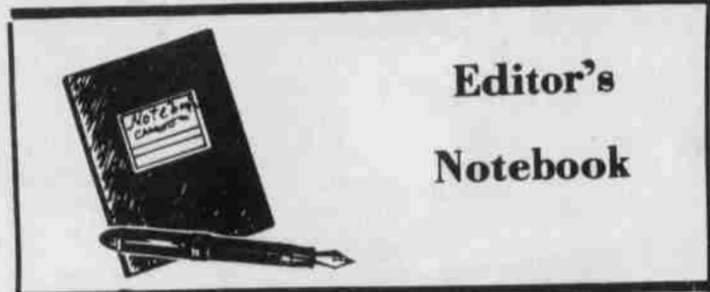
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A live steamer

Old No. 8444, Union Pacific's last steam locomotive, gathers speed on a rail-fan trip in Wyoming, in a picture taken several years ago. The iron horse is operating in eastern Oregon this week.



**Editor's
Notebook**

Sifting through the TIMES

Fifty years ago, all national forests within the state were closed to all forms of entry at 6 a.m. until general rains came, according to local Ranger F.H. Wehmeyer.

Because of the extreme fire hazard, it was considered the worst season since 1910. Hunting season has been delayed because of the closure.

Heppner High School had a record enrollment of 118 students and steps are already being taken looking to the playing of a championship football team at H.H.S. this year.

An 18-year-old boy entered first grade this year. Willie Mak is the boy's name and he is of Chinese heritage, coming from that country three months ago. He is Edward Chinn, proprietor of the Elkhorn restaurant.

Miss Reita Neel is queen of the 1929 Rodeo court with her attendants, Miss Inez Hayes, Miss Cecilia Kenny and Mrs. Albert Peterson.

Twenty-five years ago, the Gazette-Times ran a poll asking readers "Do people of Heppner want a city park?" As told in another story, the city council had received an offer of a major oil company to buy a section of the so-called city park property on north Main Street to build a service station.

The Gazette asks "keep the

land and ask the voters to approve a two mill special levy for a five year period for the purpose of cleaning off all the old buildings or removing the presently useless trees and junk."

U.S. Senator Guy Cordon was scheduled to be in Heppner on a speaking tour Thursday at O'Donnell's Cafe. Cordon is seeking reelection from a challenge by Richard Neuberger.

Over a year ago, Heppner made a fast deal and sold its old fire siren to the city of Arlington for \$100. On Tuesday, the council received a letter from the Arlington council that they weren't going to pay the bill and were sending the overgrown fog-horn back.

Grand sweepstakes prizewinner was a float designed by the Heppner Optimist Club. Riding on the float were Jack Monagle and Dick Kononen, president and vice-president of the Heppner High School student body. Adelia Anderson, college scholarship winner and Virginia Gonty, winner of the club's 4-H scholarship, also rode on the float.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry O'Donnell Jr. have returned from a week's vacation spent fishing at Priest Lake, Idaho.

Registered voters of school district no. 1 were expected to make their fifth trip to the polls in an attempt to get a new school building program started in the district. The Friday election sought approval of a \$290,000 bond issue to finance construction of a 10 or 12 room and multipurpose elementary school.

LaVerne Hams announced this week that he plans to purchase the Eubanks Truck Line from Bob Miller.

L.E. Dick of Heppner was reappointed director for Morrow County to raise funds for the University of Oregon Alumni Association.

Five years ago, Helen Chenoweth, a recruiter hired by the Doctors' Search Committee in Heppner, said she was impressed by the friendliness and openness. "You have a hospital well-equipped for the size of the area."

The Morrow County Museum and the Heppner public

library arranged a celebration for Saturday, September 25.

Wage increases up to 27 per cent were presented to the Morrow County budget and revenue-sharing committee Wednesday by Pioneer Memorial Hospital and the Gazette-Times headlined the article—"Pay raise proposal gets cool reception."

The committee was told that nurses were quitting to go to work for \$4.37 an hour at the Kinzua Corporation.

Utility rates may be cut

Witnesses for the staff of the Oregon Public Utility Commissioner recommended today a reduction of more than 55 per cent in the rate increase request filed June 1 by the Portland General Electric Company (PGE).

The company asked for a revenue increase of 21.1 per cent, which would produce \$73.4 million annually. The staff said the increase should be limited to 9.2 per cent—\$32.5 million annually.

PUC accountant Ray Lambeth said the company will be entitled to another increase of about 19.7 per cent late next year when its coal-fired generating plant at Boardman comes on line. And PUC engineer Roger Colburn warned that customers of PGE and all other investor-owned electric utilities could

face another increase sometime next year. That would result if the Bonneville Power Administration carries through with its plan to sharply increase the price of electricity it sells to the companies.

PGE proposed that almost half of its \$409 million investment in the Boardman coal plant be included in the pending rate case, since it will come on line in August of 1980, the same year in which the case will be decided by Public Utility Commissioner John Lobdell.

The Commissioner requested the staff to present a case under the terms of Ballot Measure 9 excluding the Boardman plant until it actually is in service, and prohibiting PGE from charging customers for construction work in progress.

Amtrak listens to public complaints

Not only has the Amtrak train, the "Pioneer," been saved for at least two years but officials of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation must be aware of the need to improve rail service in Eastern Oregon.

The train that operates through this region between Seattle, Portland, Boise and Salt Lake City has been given a reprieve through congressional action. It had been slated to be abandoned along with a number of other passenger trains in a severe cutback for the Amtrak system.

That Amtrak officials certainly will listen to complaints is indicated by the scheduled appearance in Hermiston later this month of the rail system's public affairs director for the western states, Arthur L. Lloyd of San Francisco. He is to be the guest of the Transportation Advisory Committee of the East Central Oregon Association of Counties, at a meeting at Frasu's Restaurant at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 26. The public is invited.

One complaint may concern the glass enclosed shelter at Hinkle that serves as a waiting room for Amtrak passengers. The shelter has had an electronically controlled door that should unlock (according to a printed notice) one hour before the scheduled arrival of trains and should lock automatically one hour after their departure.

However, luckily for passengers wanting to avoid exposure to the extremes of outdoor weather, summer or winter, the door lock situation has been remedied by whomsoever with a piece of tape over the latch.

Amtrak is to be commended for placing the shelter at Hinkle as well as arranging for the public telephone there. Now, if Amtrak could only do something about rest-room facilities, for there are none.

Another complaint that may be voiced would deal with the "800" telephone number that the public may dial for Amtrak information. The number usually responds with a busy signal, for it's the number to dial for all of the western states.

In spite of these difficulties, train travel should be a comfortable, convenient way of going from one place to another.

Surely, if the Pioneer can be kept running close to schedule, if connecting services are easy to make, if depot facilities serve the public well, and services are properly advertised, our train will serve us all for many years, as indeed it should.

Letters From Readers

Ullman comments on Representative Diggs

Editor:
Thank you for letting me know about your concern over the action taken by the House of Representatives against Representative Charles Diggs.

As you will recall, Mr. Diggs already has been convicted in federal courts on the charges and faces a prison term and fine, pending an appeal. In addition, the Justice Department has instituted civil proceeding against Mr. Diggs for misuse of funds.

The House of Representatives is limited to determining Mr. Diggs status as a Member of Congress. Mr. Diggs's conviction occurred about a year ago and received wide publicity—well ahead of the 1978 general election. In spite of that, the voters of Michi-

gan's 13th Congressional District re-elected him by an overwhelming margin.

Earlier this year, under threat of action by other Members, Mr. Diggs resigned his positions of authority in the House—chairmanships of a full Committee and a Subcommittee. And most recently the House voted to censure Mr. Diggs and require him to pay back the money he is convicted of taking.

I joined with the majority of Members in this action, which stops short of telling the citizens of Michigan who should and should not represent them in the Congress.

Thank you for seeking my side of this question. I'm sorry my knee injury prevented me from personally welcoming you to Oregon, but it was good getting the chance to say hello by telephone. My knee is recovering at a satisfactory pace. Your wishes for a speedy recovery are appreciated.

Sincerely,
Al Ullman,
Member of Congress
2nd District, Oregon

State seeks council members

Richard H. Grant, director of the State Health Planning and Development Agency, is soliciting names of consumers who are familiar with rural areas and rural health-care problems as potential gubernatorial appointees to the new Rural Health Coordinating Council created by the 1979 Oregon legislature.

Any consumer interested in serving on the council should submit his or her name and address to the state agency offices by September 7. Mail should be addressed: State Health Planning and Development Agency, 2111 Front Street NE, Suite 108, Salem, OR 97310.

Willows Grange meeting set

Willows Grange will have a regular meeting Saturday, Sept. 15. A potluck supper will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 8 p.m.

The C.W.A. of Willows Grange will meet on their regular date, Sept. 21. Time and place will be announced later.

Lexington news

• Delpha Jones • 989-8189

The Committee on Women's Activities of the Lexington Grange met at the home of Mrs. Kenneth Smouse on Tuesday afternoon.

The time was spent in finishing the plans for the 50th Anniversary of the Grange which will be held Sunday the 16th at the hall. Plans were further discussed on the pot-luck dinner with the club furnishing the main course. This affair is open to the public and it is hoped that members and friends will make an effort to be present.

The 50-year members will be introduced, and Allen Wheeler will be the featured speaker with the Sweet Adelines giving musical selections. Those present for the afternoon were, Helen Nelson, Jean Nelson, Florence McMillan, Delpha Jones, Venice Hendrickson, Virginia Peck and the hostess Frances Smouse. The next meeting will be at the Jones home Oct. 9.

Eula Bloodworth has returned home from a stay in Pioneer Memorial Hospital. Holly Rebekah Lodge met at the hall for the first meeting of the fall and winter. Plans were discussed concerning the much needed repairs on the building, whether to continue meeting in the present hall or to go to meeting in the homes a good bit of the time. The high cost of repairs and monthly expenses creates a real hardship for the few members taking part in the activities which support the building, which is used for many community affairs.

Letters will be soon sent to members and interested people asking for suggestions, as to the upkeep. Broken windows and other damage is a real problem. The club will meet at the home of Catie Padberg on Thursday and plans were made to attend a PNG luncheon at Stanfield. Refreshments were served by the NG Leila Palmer.

Frank Robinson was taken to Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston Thursday following an accident.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Yocom were Portland business visitors on Wednesday of last week.

Ralph Jackson, a former Lexington businessman now of Hermiston was seen in Lexington one day last week. Weekend callers at the C.C.

Public Notice

BEFORE THE LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OREGON IN THE MATTER OF MORROW COUNTY

FILING OF PETITION FOR REVIEW

On August 20, 1979, Mr. Braat filed a petition for review with the Department of Land Conservation and Development at its Salem Office.

The petition, Braat v. Morrow County, LCDC 79-036, challenges the zone change of June 20, 1979 allowing a subdivision of S & J Ranch.

If persons, private or governmental, consider that their interests have been affected by the action challenged or whose interests would be affected if the Commission were to take the requested corrective action, they may wish to participate in the case.

A request to intervene must be made to the hearings officer within 30 days of filing of the petition or before a hearing on

Public Notice

the merits, pursuant to ORS 197.305 (3) and OAR ch 660-01-090 (2).

The Land Conservation and Development Commission is scheduled to consider its Hearings Officer's recommendation on jurisdiction on October 12, 1979. The Hearings Officer is required to provide a recommendation to the Commission on or before October 2, 1979 so that the Commission will have an opportunity to review it before the meeting.

Interested persons may obtain more information by contacting the Appeals Coordinator of the Department of Land Conservation and Development, 1175 Court Street N.E., Salem, Oregon 97310, 378-4095 (Salem), or 1-800-452-7813 (toll-free from other Oregon phones).

DATED THIS 31st DAY OF AUGUST, 1979.

W.J. Kvarsten, Director
DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Published Sept. 13, 1979

FOR SALE Government Property

Unique Opportunity
Approximately 6.48 acres of land improved with a 2,115+ square foot concrete block building located approximately 5 miles northwest of Condon, Gilliam County, Oregon.

SEALED BID SALE: 10:00 a.m. September 27, 1979
All bids must be submitted on GSA forms which contain terms and conditions applying to this sales offering. Refer to Invitation for Bids No. GS-10-DRW-99999.
For further information and details contact:

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