

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

**The Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES**
Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper
U.S.P.S. 240-420

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'911—Emergency!'

As in many small communities across the nation, Morrow County residents have a number to call when they're in trouble. It is 911—the emergency number that rings in the sheriff's office.

Sheriff Larry Fetsch and his staff—one or another of them—are on duty around the clock, ready to answer the calls and to dispatch help where needed, be the emergency a fire, crime or one of personal survival. And the response is quick, the participants being volunteers on fire truck or ambulance who leave their homes or jobs whenever the alarm sounds. Many people can thank their continued existence to the good service of these volunteers, and to the police and doctors who work with them.

In part, also, credit may be given to the development of modern communications such as the telephone company provides and the use of radio.

The Morrow County communications center, developed by the sheriff, is in the basement of the courthouse. There, the deputies answer the emergency calls that come in over the reserved lines from four major areas—Heppner, Lexington, Ione and Boardman.

"We have two dedicated lines from each exchange," Sheriff Fetsch said. "We have worked out a cost-sharing formula between the cities concerned and the county, for the surrounding rural areas. We have trained the operators to answer, '911 emergency,' so people will realize they have dialed the right number."

Irrigon lies within Morrow County, too, but its 911 number is tied into that of the Umatilla City Police, in neighboring Umatilla County. Irrigon's volunteer firemen are dispatched by the Umatilla police, and police calls from Irrigon are referred by telephone from Umatilla to the sheriff's office in Heppner. The telephone lines between the two centers provide usually reliable communications, the sheriff believes.

The sheriff's staff receives over a hundred calls a day, over both the 911 and regular business phones. The five fulltime employes and one or two persons on relief shifts may be complimented for their courtesy—and quick reactions, relaying calls as necessary to volunteer firemen, ambulance crews or to local or state police and sheriff's deputies. Beverly Launer is the supervisor of the communications center.

Local firemen are provided with "buzzers," radio devices that alert them to fire alarms, and ambulance crews are summoned by telephone to Pioneer Memorial Hospital, where an ambulance is always in readiness.

In connection with the Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone Co., the sheriff is looking into more sophisticated systems, such as the automatic ringing of several numbers of people on volunteer duty by pushing one button. It is a cost well worth considering.

In smaller communities such as those in eastern Oregon, many vital services are dependent on a well organized volunteer force with good professional direction. This certainly is the case here.

Observations

Ullman pays a casual visit to Heppner

Congressman Al Ullman, the eastern Oregon representative who heads what is described as "the powerful House Ways and Means Committee that writes all tax and Social Security legislation," didn't appear to be in "deep trouble with the voters back home." He spoke at a no-host breakfast last week at the West of Willow in Heppner, a casual affair representing both Democrats and Republicans where most of the discussion concerned economic issues. He came in with Orville Cutsforth, in whose home he had spent the night, and he greeted a number of persons with apparent fondness—reflecting a type of acquaintance developed over several years that is expressed with a hearty handshake, a shoulder pat, and such comments as, "Well, well Bill, it is good to see you."

On the whole, it seemed a sympathetic audience, and if Mr. Ullman is in "deep trouble," the questions and answers there didn't seem to show it. The descriptions, in fact, come from a magazine, Congress Today, that is published by the National Republican Congressional Committee in Washington, D.C. That group, of course, is rooting for "Republican challenger Dennis A. Smith, 42-year-old airline pilot-turned newspaper publisher (who) has 23-year House veteran Ullman on ropes, according to informed reports." Perhaps that is true, perhaps not. The Republican publication describes as the major campaign issue Ullman's proposal that the U.S. adopt the "value added tax," a sort of national sales tax.

In fact, the VAT wasn't mentioned at the meeting here. Mr. Ullman's campaign director, Jim Beall, said the congressman is concerned that there is "a lot of misinformation on VAT—he doesn't want it to overshadow other issues. He wants the people to look at it. He does feel he's stimulated discussion but he's not going to push it." Beall's feeling was that the VAT legislation probably will not come to the floor of

Congress this session, and he commented that "other politicians" have easy answers to the complicated tax problems that come before Ullman's committee.

Beall, a young (30) University of Oregon Law School graduate, who grew up in Hillsboro, comes to the campaign from Ullman's staff in Washington. He has served in Ullman's office and on the Ways and Means Committee staff, and was asked last year by the congressman to head his re-election bid. This meant resigning from the congressional pay roll and going to work for an organization called People for Al Ullman. It is a campaign and fund-raising group, and Beall said he is enjoying the challenge of organizing the campaign utilizing the help of local supporters in communities throughout Oregon's vast Second Congressional District. While Mr. Ullman's visit to Heppner was an "official" one, as opposed to a campaign tour, Beall came along to learn of the issues of concern and meet with various campaign chairmen, including Mike Sweeney and Betty Brown in Morrow County.

Congressman Ullman does have opposition in the Democratic primary election on May 20—from Steve Anderson, whom Beall described as "a perennial candidate—very, very liberal, who expressed the feeling that Al's not a real Democrat because he's not a true liberal." (Steve) is "a very nice guy but he has a completely different philosophy." Apparently, Anderson has sought to debate with Mr. Ullman but the congressman "has a limited time available, and he is not sure how much value there would be to a debate when he has a 23-year record in Congress," Beall said.

What will Beall do when the campaign is over and Mr. Ullman, presumably, has been re-elected? He probably will go back to Washington. There is a "tug and pull" between the opportunities in the nation's capital and "the lifestyle out here," but he did add "Washington is where the action is."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An endorsement for candidate

Editor:
Over the past eight years I have come to know Mary Martin not only socially but through her involvement in community affairs and other related activities. I have found her to be a person of integrity and independence and one who is responsive to the community's needs.

It is on this basis that I want to publicly endorse Mary Martin for the nomination of Morrow County Treasurer in the upcoming primary May 20.

Mary C. Kilkenny
Heppner

A correction and an apology

Editor:
The article in last week's paper announcing local persons involved in the Lansing for State Treasurer campaign contained an error which should be corrected. While the press release from the Lansing Headquarters correctly listed myself as county coordinator, the release was either incorrect or misinterpreted to include members of the Morrow County Democratic Central Committee as members of the local Lansing committee. Paul Jones, Edna Peck, and Barbara Bloodworth are current officers of the Central Committee and have no official connection to the Lansing for Treasurer campaign.

I apologize for any inconvenience or confusion which may have resulted from the article.

Sincerely,
Linda A. Shaw
Morrow County Coordinator,
Lansing for State Treasurer
Box 365, Heppner

Sifting through the TIMES

1930
Fifty years ago Harry L. Corbett, republican candidate for governor, spoke at a Lions Club luncheon. He was the first gubernatorial aspirant to appear locally that campaign year. He said he was not going to make the usual promise of reducing taxes because the people want most the things the taxes would pay for.

'Conspiracy' against eating red meat

"Irresponsible federal government policies and regulations as well as various social and environmental activists who lack faith in a free society and free economy, are trying to determine the structure of American agriculture and, to a large degree, our food economy. They even want to tell us what food we should or should not eat," stated the Executive Vice President of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association Donald Ostensoe.

"During the past two years, and much more so during the past six months, there seems to be a widespread conscious conspiracy to alter our food system. There is considerable evidence that there are many legislative and regulatory initiatives which, if implemented, will result in a much less efficient and much more controlled agriculture."

"In particular, the role of livestock in our economy and meat in our diets, will decline substantially. American consumers are being misled by inaccuracies, half-truths, and even lies, concerning the effects of red meat on diet, health and longevity. Contrary to popular thinking, medical science is still baffled

by the causes of heart disease, strokes and cancer.

"Because of this meat, milk and eggs have been targeted as foods contributing to high cholesterol, therefore a variety of diseases. It is widely believed by people in and out of government that eating less red meat will be beneficial to us."

The beef executive added that "It has become quite clear that some environmental activists have a bias against red meat in particular, and agriculture production in general. Their proposals and activities reflect a basic anti business, anti technology and anti modern agriculture viewpoint."

Herbicide Protesters wrong Ostensoe continued, "My remarks are particularly significant in Southern Oregon in regards to the protesters calling themselves 'Applegate Occupation Team' opposing the herbicide 2,4-D. Less than two dozen individuals state that 2,4-D contains cancer causing agents and is linked to miscarriages and birth defects.

"Twice the number of scientists that I'm familiar with defend the use of 2,4-D and also 2,4,5-T."

game birds that are killed by those two species. Two teams were formed and the team that killed the most would win and the other team would have to take the winners out to dinner.

Ham was for sale at the MacMarr Grocery Store in Heppner for 29 cents a pound and the Easter special on coffee was three pounds for \$1.15.

Twenty-five years ago Echo girl Carol Ann Wiglesworth was named queen of the Morrow County Fair.

About 100 persons gathered at the fairgrounds in Heppner for the first testing of the new field lights.

A carnival put on by the Heppner band raised about \$800 for new uniforms.

Dennis Swanson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Garland Swanson, was named valedictorian at Ione High School.

A Chevrolet Corvett sports car driven by Donald McElligott collided with a truck driven by Lloyd L. Howton near Eight Mile. McElligott had minor injuries and Howton had a broken shoulder.

Plans to give the first series of polio vaccine shots to all first and second graders were delayed because of a delay in the shipment of the Salk polio vaccine, because of a lack of the serum.

1975
Five years ago vandals damaged buildings at the county fairgrounds causing the fair board to make the threat that if the vandalism did not stop during the off-season of the fair, it would have to be closed to the public.

"You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," was the name of the musical play being put on in Ione with stars Tammi Hams, Martha McElligott, Paula Lindstrom, Mike Conklin, Dan McElligott and Jerry Rietmann.

Would Olympic ideals be served by our athletes' going to Moscow?

It is not necessary to hate the Russian people or the Soviet athletes to acknowledge that the Soviet Union is an anachronism in our modern world. Despite its economic, scientific and military advances it is dangerously backward socially and politically. A system of political control that has changed little since the earliest czars still is operated from the Kremlin, employing the secret police, closed borders, summary justice and slave labor camps to control the peoples of a vast empire. The Soviet leaders, self-conscious about this backwardness and always fearful of the people they suppress, badly wanted the Olympics this year as a means of earning greater world respect.

The world initially was willing to give them that, with as much good will as they could have asked. It was willing to overlook the human rights violations. It was willing to risk the possibility of dirty tricks of the type that Western athletes have

sometimes experienced in international competition inside the Soviet Union. It was willing to overlook, once again, the fact that Soviet athletes serve the needs of the state, not the Olympic ideal of individual excellence. All this was accepted in the interest of trying to give the Soviet people some sense of welcome to the world community. The Soviet cities where Olympic events are scheduled have been looking forward to the occasion with growing excitement.

The Kremlin's response to the good will from abroad was to send its armies into Afghanistan, a neighboring independent state that had committed no offense against the U.S.S.R. beyond resisting efforts to turn it into a Soviet satellite. Most probably these troops have used one of the most terrible weapons ever invented, poison gas, against the Afghan resistance. The Kremlin can offer no rationale other than the tired and phony

explanation offered so often in the past, that the Soviet troops were "invited" in by the Afghan people.

The United States Olympic Committee delegates, who met in Colorado Springs, should ask themselves whether the Olympic ideal is really served by winking at all this and pretending that Moscow is just another Olympics site. Would it not be served better by demonstrating to the Russian people and the world that Americans—private citizens—are capable of moral outrage and are willing to make some sacrifices as proof of their feelings? And finally, will they really feel comfortable sending young American men and women to march and compete in a place so poisoned with political cynicism? We hope not, because we certainly wouldn't feel comfortable watching such insensitivity to ugly reality.

—The Wall Street Journal

Size of trees harvested in Oregon shows decrease

The size of trees harvested from Oregon forests will "drop dramatically" during the next century, posing major challenges to the state's forest products industry, predicts an Oregon State University forester.

Tree size—diameter measured at breast height—will fall to an average of 14 inches in both the eastern and western regions of the state by 2075, believes Philip L. Tedder, assistant professor of forest management.

In 1975, the average diameter of trees harvested in western Oregon was 23 inches and in the eastern part of the state, 25 inches. In earlier days when the timber was all old growth, the average diameter was much greater, said Tedder.

It takes 3.22 logs 14 inches in diameter to produce the same cubic volume of lumber as one 24 inch log, figures show. In converting logs to plywood,

2.49 logs 14 inches in diameter are required to provide the same amount of veneer as one 24 inch log.

The forest products industry will be challenged to achieve current quality and quantity of production with smaller material, said Tedder.

The drop in tree size will be sharpest in privately-owned forests in western Oregon, predicts Tedder. The average diameter will fall from 27 inches in 1975 to near 11 inches in 2075. Diameters harvested in national forests will fall more gradually, from 22 inches to 17 inches between 1975 and 2075.

In eastern Oregon, average tree diameters in private forests are expected to drop from 26 to 13 inches and on national forests, from 27 to 15 inches.

Tedder based his analysis on studies led by John Beuter, head of the forest management department at OSU.

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