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City of Heppner and the  
County of Morrow

**The Heppner  
GAZETTE-TIMES**  
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## Two Endangered Activities

Heppner voters will be going to their polling place June 24 again to give, or withhold, approval of the proposed budget for the 1980-81 year. The question will be whether to levy \$74,050 outside of the 6 per cent limitation. If the question should fail, what items would be deleted?

Both the swimming pool and the public library have been mentioned. It would be a shame to cut out either activity, for they provide recreation that should always be available. In some respects, Heppner is unusual in having an Olympic-sized pool as it does—for many communities much larger do not have such a facility either outdoors or under cover. As an outdoor pool, it is subject to seasonal use. But in the summer it can be used intensively, not only for recreational swimming but for water-safety instruction. Surely the taxpayers can accept the \$10,563 burden that has been outlined for swimming pool expenses in the coming year.

The pool has been reopened for the portion that remains of the current fiscal year, but there is danger if the budget should fail of the pool's closure after July 1, the start of a new fiscal year.

The public library is a year-around activity, well accommodated in a handsome building that it shares with the museum. The building was the gift to Morrow County of Harry and Amanda Duvall.

A smaller budget than that for the swimming pool—only \$7,755—has been listed for the library. Under the current schedule it is open only 12 hours a week. Nevertheless it is patronized, and offers a good selection of fiction and nonfiction books, mainly for pleasure reading. A devoted staff, partly paid, mostly volunteer, attempts to keep up with new acquisitions, using the current best-seller lists for popular choices. These are important, for many readers like to be conversant about new books but may not care to make the personal investment that book purchases require. The library may make such books available, if it has the funds in its budget to do so.

The library does not levy fines against its patrons who return books that are "overdue," that is, that are kept beyond the two-week period for which they are borrowed. Apparently this is because the fine money would go into the city's general fund and not be reserved for library activities. The Heppner City Council should revise this policy so that such revenues, small though they might be, could be added to the book acquisition fund.

For the sake of both the library and the swimming pool, the city budget should be passed June 24.

## Utility reform petition drive starts in Salem

"The dawn of the solar age in Oregon is now," announced Dave Teague in Salem. He is organizer for the Oregonians for Utility Reform (OUR) initiative campaign, which would put the state into the solar and renewable energy business.

Called the Renewable Energy Development and Conservation Act, the initiative seeks to utilize state bonding authority set aside 48 years ago for energy production and wholesale power development.

The initiative calls for a three-member non-partisan Oregon Energy Development Commission (OEDC) as required by Oregon Constitution Article XI-D. OEDC would issue and sell bonds to fund renewable energy projects, it would develop a wholesale power supply for consumer-owned utilities, and it would fund projects to enhance fish and wildlife.

Not a statewide utility, OEDC would be prohibited retail sales.

## Salem Scene

### Woman's place is in Legislature

BY JACK ZIMMERMAN

A familiar slogan of Salem equal rights proponents declares: "A Woman's Place is in the House and Senate."

And without referring to it directly, this column—immediately following last month's primary election—speculated on the growing number of women serving as members of the Oregon Legislature.

It indicated a strong likelihood the total number of women to win seats in House and Senate next November could exceed the record 14 who served in 1979 and could expand to 24 if all female candidates are successful next fall.

It also pointed out that if two dozen are elected, that number would equal the total of all first-year lawmakers of both sexes last session.

Subsequently, the subject of distaff legislators led to the office of Senate Historian Cecil Edwards and a complete list of all women who have served and are serving in the State Legislature.

Among other things, the list provides dramatic evidence voters must be getting the equal rights message.

That previous column reported the increase of female lawmakers during the decade of the Seventies—escalating steadily from seven in 1971 to twice that number in 1979. Edwards' list shows women serving in virtually every session of the Legislature since 1915.

But the most startling fact produced by his list, deals with the numbers who have served and are serving.

Only fifty-five women have served as Oregon lawmakers. And of that total nearly half served terms as recent as the beginning of the last decade. Altogether, 23 have won legislative seats during elections starting in 1970.

The possibility that as many as two dozen could become lawmakers this year appears even more significant and dispels any notion of tokenism that may have hounded lady lawmakers in the past.

Although their tenure dates back six and-a-half decades, as a group Oregon's female members of the Legislature appear a hardy lot. All but 12 on Edwards' list are still living—although the Senate antiquary points out his inability to determine the present whereabouts of another half-dozen.

"Perhaps," he said, "some of your readers might know something about those particular ladies and help bring our records up to date."

Those six include Kathryn Clarke, who served in the Senate in 1915 from Roseburg; Mrs. William S. Kinney, who served in both House and Senate during the early Twenties; Daisy B. Bevans, a House member from Milwaukie in 1973; Mrs. Stella A. Cutlip, a member of the House from North Bend in 1943; Mrs. John Karnopp, appointed to the Senate from Portland in 1943, and Mrs. Anna M. (Don C.) Ellis, a three-term House member from Garibaldi in the middle Forties.

Any one with information about any of these women is invited to write Edwards at the State Capitol, Salem 97310, or call him at 378-8800.

The comparatively large number of women now serving in Oregon's Legislature becomes even more significant as one scans Edwards' list and discovers that seldom before the last decade have more than a half-dozen or less served at the same time. Only twelve have served in the Senate in the last 65 years and seven female Senators won

that distinction following service in the House of Representatives.

The proliferation of women in the Legislature also is reflected by the fact three women served as Senators at the same time during the mid-Seventies, an occurrence previously unmatched, according to Edwards' list. Only once before, in 1957, had two women been Senate members simultaneously.

Former Portland Mayor Dorothy McCullough Lee and the late Grace Olivier Peck, also from the Rose City, appear to have had the longest legislative careers—although Lane County's incumbent Rep. Nancie Fadeley is working on her second decade in Salem.

As numbers of women have increased in the Oregon Legislature, so too have their responsibilities. Five of last session's 14 women in the House chaired legislative committees. From a percentage standpoint, that figure has special significance.

The ascension of women in the Legislature has been accompanied by an equally remarkable increase in female office holders in the state's top elected positions. One is Labor Commissioner Mary Wendy Roberts, former representative and senator from Portland. Another is Secretary of State Norma Pualus, who stands first in succession to the governor and previously served in the House of Representatives.

Still another is former Portland lawmaker Betty Roberts, who is serving as the only female member of the Oregon Court of Appeals.

Such service certainly stands as a tribute to the ability of Oregon's women to carve their niche in state politics.

And at the same time, their recent rise to prominence in the Legislature makes it easier to understand why Oregon ratified the Equal Rights Amendment twice!



### "Ovets"

"The follies which a man regrets most in his life are those which he didn't commit when he had the opportunity."

Helen Rowland

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Budget reflects boosts for elective officials

Editor:

An elective officer knows what to expect, money and benefit-wise, when he runs for office.

In 1977-78 the judge made \$14,729. In '78-79 he received an \$1,100 raise, and in '79-80 an \$1,194.01 raise was received, bringing his wage to \$17,023. In three years an increase of \$2,299.

The '80-81 budget asks for a \$7,972 raise, or a 46 percent increase in the judge's pay in one year—more than three times the total of the last three years.

A commissioner in '78-79 received \$7,514, and in '79-80 was raised to \$9,172.

Being election year, more time was spent by the commissioners in the courthouse. In prior years they had to be at the court once a week, or for a total of 40 days a year. The rest was unaccountable time spent elsewhere or, as one comments, "reading garbage mail." The commissioners asked only a \$1,045 raise for each in the budget.

Reflected in the budget are 20 percent to 46 percent wage increases for elective office holders.

On the other hand, the office workers whose salaries have been neglected over the past years, received a pittance. Put the money where the raises belong and you wouldn't have the claimed "turnover in the courthouse employees."

As long as the County Court has been discussed as to wages, how about duties? They appoint the hospital board, a board that has been nonresponsive to either them or to the public. The court put the hospital budget in with the county budget this year but because of defeat together, one hears "throw it out (hospital budget) and we have a chance."

Tactics—Divert the voters' attention from the main subject, then the county budget will pass.

They hired a \$25,000 a year man, a bridge engineer, to run their parks, build and maintain roads, and for miscellaneous jobs around the county.

They bought and are setting up an office at the fairgrounds (which, by the way at this writing, no permits have been issued for same) which when completed will have cost the taxpayers a substantial amount of money.

The roads must be fixed, everyone using them will

agree. The five-year plan, suggested by the Road Committee (approximately 80 percent of the committee members live on paved roads), would, for example, include so many roads a year. Example: Sand Hollow repaired in 1980-81; must it wait until 1985-86 before it gets repaired again, and what if your road isn't due to be worked on for five years?

The County Court has given away responsibility, paying others to do their work, but feel they are worth more!

Pioneer Memorial Hospital is one example. The people in the area need the hospital, more so with gas and the economy the way it is. Exact figures on the cost of the last survey for the hospital are not available at this time, for it is an incomplete survey. Due to passing the buck, Pioneer Memorial Hospital is financially no better off than it was several years ago. Until the County Court removes its earmuffs and listens to the taxpayers and the public, its future is rather dismal.

The County Court can put a special ballot on dog control or a dog pound but not for one to find out what the public and taxpayer wants done as to an elective hospital board, hospital clinic districts or, mostly, whether the county or a nonprofit organization should run the hospital.

The first study cost \$3,500 (complete in all ways) and the one still in progress, with consultant fees, mailing list, postage, etc., surely after nine months or so, has cost the taxpayer somewhere between four and five figures, and with no answers to the public as to what was accomplished. The survey goes on.

Only you and I, the public and the taxpayer, can stop the people involved by voting on the budget involved.

How many of you reading this letter, with fixed income, retired, senior citizen and low income, had someone walk up to you this year and say, "I'm going to give you a 20 percent to 46 percent raise?"

Thank you,  
Merlin Cantlin

### Vets get \$311

Single veterans going to school full time under the GI Bill receive \$311 per month in Veterans Administration training benefits. Those with dependents get more.

## Sifting through the TIMES

1930

Fifty years ago Morrow County was having a free chataqua in Heppner with musical-comedy plays, a musical quartet, lectures and a band concert all scheduled.

A July 4 celebration was being planned for the celebration and dedication of the new artesian well that had been drilled for the city. The Irrigation 4-H band, sports events and prizes, and a dance with fireworks were to be part of the festivities.

The 1929 property taxes were being divided out within the county and schools were going to receive more than 44 percent, \$178,436, and roads were second with better than 19 percent, \$77,294.

Girl Scout trooper June Anderson sold more poppies than any other girl locally for the American Legion Auxiliary as she handed out 165.

Fifteen Morrow County 4-H Club members traveled to Corvallis to participate in the 4-H club summer school along with 700 other 4-Hers in Oregon.

1955

Twenty five years ago a grand jury was called to investigate the fatal shooting in Heppner of a Portland attorney. The female defendant was being held in the Wasco County Jail in the Dalles.

Rosewell Motor Co. announced that it was going to sell Ford's new line of car, the Mercury.

Al Bunch filed for a position on the school board on the last day to join the other candidates: Ray French, Harold Wright, and Howard Cleveland.

More than 30 farmers attended the annual conservation tour sponsored by the

Heppner Soil Conservation District to learn about the best conservation practices. They visited ranches in the area that practiced good conservation techniques.

Sharon Cutsforth set a Junior Olympics record in Oregon when she broad jumped 7-3 1/2.

Five persons filed for three openings on the school board. The group included Don McElligott, John Proudfoot, Mrs. E. Markum Baker, Mrs. Wallace Matthews and Berl Akers.

34 county boys and girls went to the 4-H summer school.

Paul Tews was named head of the Ione American Legion.

Five years ago the Blue Mountain Community College budget faced the voters for the second time. It was the first time in 13 years the budget had failed at the first voting.

The Morrow County Queen's Coronation for Mickey Hoskins was being planned.

Three Morrow County girls were preparing to travel to Japan as part of a 4-H exchange program. Alice Abrams, Cathy Palmer and Janelle Piper were three of 36 youngsters going to Japan while some Japanese students came to Oregon and toured the state.

More than 350 rodeo fans gathered at the Heppner fairgrounds to watch the Morrow County Jr. Rodeo. Dee Dee Karl of Bend was the winner of the senior girls all-around title at the fifth annual event.

## Secondary enrollment decline

An estimated 1,420 students were to graduate from private high schools this year. That number, too, has dropped since it hit a high of 1,778 in 1966.

A drop in secondary enrollment will cause the number to decline the next few years, Duncan said, possibly to below 27,000 in 1984. However, it will increase soon after that.

## Business Directory

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