

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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THE NYSSA FLOWER SHOW

The approach of another Nyssa Flower show discovers in all of us, particularly members of the community-minded Nyssa Civic club, the same eagerness with which we greeted the first flower of the season. It brings to us refreshing thoughts, visions of loveliness, of gorgeous color. After all we are nature's children and we delight in the beauties of nature.

Only the choicest flowers grown in Nyssa will be on parade at the nearing show. They will be the city's best, the pride of the family gardener. However, it is not alone Nyssa's show. Blossoms are brought from the country, from nearby communities and Owyhee dam.

It is a source of never ending pride to tell of flowers grown at Owyhee dam. Until one visits the dam, it is difficult to associate construction of the world's highest dam with flowers, but engineers at Owyhee are home loving people. That is the secret.

In its flower show, the Nyssa Civic club—the only women's civic club in the county—has a message of beauty for the public. No admission charge is made. It is not marred by commercialism. The floral display is, and always has been, first in thought. There is no confusion of an expressed idealism with the possibility of profit, though we must say that the flower show will enrich us all.

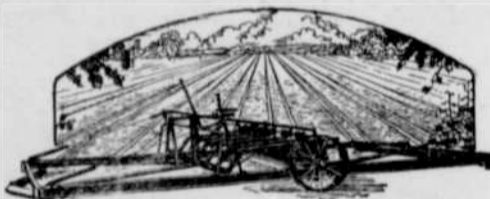
"TRADE-LASTS"

Another thing that is wrong with the country is that no one comes around any more and says, "I've got a trade last for you." A noted lawyer called our attention to that yesterday. He came in when we were engrossed in reparations, aviation, unemployment, communism and special sessions. He came in very sadly and said nobody plays "trade-lasts" any more.

What is the reason? Well—he replied—the trouble is that people have become too engrossed in themselves. They don't want to trade compliments. They want the compliments, all right, but they don't want to have to give one in return. It takes a little effort of kindness.—The Oregonian.

Mercury is too good a thing to keep down—it wants at the top.

As a matter of fact, a man doesn't have to be a musician these days to do a lot of harping.



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RAILS PAY MALHEUR TAXES

A direct blow is struck at every home in Oregon, according to the Union Pacific Employers' Booster league, whenever business is taken from the rails. Not only will loss of business by the railroads, which have always been prepared to handle it, mean a curtailment of man power and its resultant far-reaching reduction of purchasing power by employes, but, in addition, there is a direct reflection possible in tax receipts.

The rail employes point out that Oregon schools receive strong financial support from the railroads—a sizable portion of the \$1,361,196.49 annual tax paid by the Union Pacific alone, and of the large additional tax sum paid by its 4,965 Oregon employes.

It is noteworthy that the trucks which now operate on the highways pay exactly the same tax per gallon on gasoline as does the lightest flivver, namely, four cents per gallon. To the extent of protecting highways and of maintaining the present high standard of schools in Oregon, the interests of the average citizen in getting the business back to the rails are just as great as are those of the railroad employes.

It seems astounding but taxes paid by the Union Pacific for 1930 in Malheur county amounted to \$108,554 or 20.129 per cent of the entire tax levied in this county. Of this sum \$53,274.25 went directly for educational purposes and \$21,030.50 for highway purposes.

Taxes paid by the railroad in the city of Nyssa amounted to \$5,198.88.

A GREAT ROAD YEAR

Programs of federal, state and local governments for 1931 road construction call for expenditures totaling \$1,616,000,000—an increase of \$15,000,000 over 1930. The federal government's contribution of \$249,897,000 is \$150,000,000 over 1930.

A part of this federal money is now being expended on the Yellowstone Cut-off highway. When this road is taken care of, supporters for the I-O-N highway through Jordan Valley hope to receive a federal appropriation. The Journal is of the opinion that this route should receive the whole-hearted support of Malheur county, particularly if it can be built by federal money. The Yellowstone Cut-off is not a competitor. It is under construction and has its appropriation.

The problem of unemployment has perhaps been the most potent factor in increasing road budgets—coupled with the genuine need for more and better roads, in the more sparsely settled sections. The farm-to-market road movement is coming in for increasing attention and more and more communities are finding that full-width, weather-proof, all-year-round roads are essential to agriculture in this modern age.

It might be said that the money we spend for roads give us better returns than almost any other form of government tax expenditure. Quick and economical transport, of goods and persons, is vital to social and economic progress. Particularly is this true of those rural areas where roads have been in essentially the same state of unimprovement since the horse-and-wagon days. Only by building inexpensive, but good roads, can farming sections be given a place in the march forward.

A FIRE IN EVERY SMOKE

Smokers have been responsible for one-third of all the man-caused forest fires on the national forests of Oregon and Washington during the present fire season, according to reports just received by the regional forester, of Portland. For the period up to July 21, 330 man-caused fires have been reported. Of these, 109 were started by careless smokers and 75 by thoughtless campers, the report shows. This is an increase over the similar period for 1930, when smokers started 84 fires and campers 52 out of a total of 193 man-caused fires.

In addition to the man-caused forest fires, 126 have been started by lightning in 1931, as compared with 304 during the same period last year.

Of the total of 456 fires reported to date this year 265 have been put out while under one-quarter of an acre each; an additional 119 of the fires were held under 10 acres each; while only 72 of them exceeded 10 acres each. The total acreage burned over by these fires includes 8,904 acres of national forest land; 4,666 acres of privately owned land inside national forest boundaries, and 7,793 acres of private land outside and adjacent to national forest boundaries.

The regional forester calls attention to the special order which prohibits smoking while traveling in the national forests on forest, brush or grass land, except on paved or surfaced highways. A strict compliance with this order on the part of the forest-using public will do much to reduce the fire hazard. August is the most hazardous month of the year as a rule.

Heredity is what makes a bad boy get all of his bad habits from his father's side of the house.

The difference between death and taxes is that death doesn't get worse every time the legislature meets.

Maybe you, too, have noticed that a flying rumor never has any trouble finding a landing place.

The man who finds it necessary to swallow his pride should always make sure that his digestion is O. K.

How many old-timers can remember when a nickel's worth of paregoric instead of a \$200 appendicitis operation cured a stomach ache?

Life insurance is getting cheaper in this country. So is life.

Voice of the Press

NO SPECIAL SESSION

The weather, of course, has really nothing to do with the case. But on these days when the sun drives hot against drawn window shades, the governor's announcement that there will be no extra session of the legislature to consider tax reduction comes like a cooling breeze from the sea. As said by a writer on this page the other day, this is the time of year when statesmen, scientists, clergymen turn their attention to light reading. Taxation does not provide light reading.

The governor, we take it, has sensed the difficulties that would encompass a special session, if called to consider taxation. There is no short and simple statute that will correct the evils that have grown up under our complicated body of tax laws. And there are almost as many ideas as to what ought to be done about taxation as there are members of the law-making body. Even the primary proposal that Oregon adopt the Indiana plan of state supervision of local budgets and bond issues, it was found, would encounter the present opposition of probably a majority of that body.

But good has come out of the agitation for tax reduction and out of discussion of a special session of the legislature. Alert organizations have been formed in many counties of the state to do what they can to induce a reduction in taxes. Tax levying bodies have sensed the depth of public opinion and the need for retrenchment.

In this situation there is opportunity for the state-wide organization to formulate a well-considered plan for presentation either at the next regular session of the legislature or through initiative. There is ample reason for a comprehensive revision of state law, either wherein it affects local levies, and perhaps for either state or local

supervision by a non-tax-spending body. But the subject is too complex, and public opinion is too unsettled now as to what ought to be done, for a special session of the legislature to undertake the job.—Exchange.

RETURNS TO MEMBERS

Farmers Co-operative Creamery

Average to Nov. 30, including Stock Dividends 39.75

| | Monthly Price | Cash Dividend | Stock Dividend | Total |
|------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-------|
| Dec. 1930 | .28 | .02 | .02 | .32 |
| Jan. 1931 | .22 | .02 | .02 | .26 |
| Feb. 1931 | .26 | .02 | .02 | .30 |
| Mch. 1931 | .26 | .02 | .02 | .30 |
| April 1931 | .21 | .02 | .02 | .25 |
| May 1931 | .20 | .02 | .02 | .24 |
| June 1931 | .20 | .02 | .02 | .24 |

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