

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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WE NEED A FIRE DEPARTMENT

We need a more modern and up-to-date fire department in Nyssa for more reasons than one. Citing the first, lack of adequate protection is costing all of us a 33 per cent increase in insurance. We paid \$12 on \$2000 last year. This year the insurance companies demand \$18. Such an increase has resulted in a strong desire for a motor driven fire truck, the requirement demanded by the insurance companies if we are to enjoy the benefits of the lower insurance rate in effect in other towns of this size.

Reason two, we need adequate protection because the loss of our possessions is never entirely covered by insurance. Fire is costly, frequently taking our most precious possessions, even lives, in its toll.

A motor driven fire truck need not cost the city any great amount. Several years ago, Vale purchased a good, used chassis and a fine little fire truck was built by local mechanics at a cost to the city of Vale of a few hundred dollars. It is well equipped and gives our neighboring city splendid service.

The saving in insurance in the city would easily purchase a new truck, it is said.

There should be no delay in the investigation of this important matter in order to secure a proper adjustment of insurance rates in the immediate future.

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RECLAMATION IS THE BIG BUSINESS OF OREGON

Marshall N. Dana, associate editor of the Oregon Journal, attended the recent irrigation congress in Bend along with Frank T. Morgan, secretary of the Owyhee irrigation district, E. C. Van Petten, friend of the development, and others. Mr. Dana was appointed a member of the committee delegated to invite western states to hold a conference in Oregon soon for the promotion of irrigation development in the west.

Again, we will be indebted to Mr. Dana. Here in Malheur county he seems to be one of us so sincere an interest has he evidenced in all problems concerning our Vale and Owyhee. He is a Portlander but first an Oregonian fully appreciating the fact that what will help Malheur county will build Oregon.

The settlers of our projects are the citizens of Oregon, said Dana. No longer is irrigation an affair of desert wastes or the growing of two blades of grass where none grew before. We know now that irrigation, either continuous or supplemental, is necessary to the whole state.

When we talk about the future of Oregon irrigation we talk about values that run into hundreds of millions. We do not talk about politics or pilfering but about homes and citizens and the foundation of the state.

That is the reason the Oregon Reclamation Congress drew this year leaders from every part of the state. They are dealing with the big business of Oregon.

UNCLE SAM BUILDS FOR BETTER TIMES

From this depression will come many things much needed, and in the long run more important than the depression. Our Government, in its process of "shoveling out millions" finances many useful enterprises. It will buy \$62,000,000 of California bonds to help finance a bridge from San Francisco to Oakland, which will be the biggest bridge in the world.

Six thousand men will be employed directly on the bridge, 6,000 more indirectly, in industries supplying materials and equipment. The total cost will be \$70,000,000.

Federal money is being employed in the construction of more needed roads. In fact such money may be expended on the I. O. N. from Nyssa to McDermitt.

About \$22,000,000 will be expended on the Vale and Owyhee irrigation works.

Long after these lean years are forgotten, these works will be serving people in all parts of the country and many of them will be paying their part.

COMMENTS BY CLARK WOOD

Perhaps the hit and run driver reasons that he shouldn't be expected to take an interest in some stranger he just happened to run across.

Government is taxing checks when people think it ought to be checking taxes.

The poor we have always with us are now, in large measure, having us with them.

Perhaps the "flying tackle" was abolished because, by reason of its use, too many players sprouted wings.

One trouble with recreation is that the change it affords is not always compensatory for the change it demands.

Proving that his talent goes further than the staging of bull fights, Max Gehlar, director, put the Salem show over the top this year. The fair will make a profit.

The difference is that China wants help and Japan helps herself.

Another alarmist is concerned, but needn't be, over what will become of the younger generation. It will become the older generation.

While the Mahatma's cause may not be without merit, it seems to us to be thinly presented.

Voice of the Press

A GOOD MEASURE

The Six Per Cent Tax Limitation Amendment to be voted upon by the people November 8 is a good measure in that it will correct a bad situation that arises under the amendment as it now stands.

For years the tax levying bodies working under the six per cent limit have not reduced taxes when they could have done so because they have hesitated to lower the tax base. On the contrary the general practice for a long time was to increase taxes six per cent each year.

The new amendment allows a tax body to use any one of the three preceding years in making up the tax base. Under that plan, if the amendment is adopted, it will be possible for a tax body to reduce its levy and still have a way out of the woods on the following year if the situation should demand a higher levy.

The proposition provides a rather round-about way of stopping the gradual tax increase that has occurred since the six per cent limit was adopted. In our view it would be preferable to wipe the whole thing out but the public has been educated to believe that the six per cent limit is a good thing so it might be difficult to repeal the entire amendment.

That was the view of the legislature in submitting the new amendment to the people. Taxpayers stand to profit by its adoption.—Pendleton East Oregonian.

OREGON TRAIL FIVE TRIM APPLE VALLEY

The Oregon Trail basketball teams added two more victories to its fast growing list by defeating the first and second team of Apple Valley Friday. The games were played on the Trail court. A good crowd witnessed the games.

The Oregon Trail first team defeated the first team from Apple Valley 41 to 14. Paul Johnston Oregon Trail forward, was high point man with 19.

The second team game went to Oregon Trail, 18 to 2. Wilson Keck, Oregon Trail forward, was high point man with 10 points. Gilbert Holmes contributed the other 8 points.

The Oregon Trail team has worked up more confidence in themselves by equal time in size and from schools piling up a large score on boys who with larger enrollments.



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