

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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GIVE THANKS—AND EAT

When the Pilgrim fathers gathered round for the first Thanksgiving feast on a bleak November day 300 years ago, they gave thanks for the product of the harvest and the hunt, and rejoiced in its abundance. They ate, probably as much as they could, remembering the hungry winter which was past. They ate because they needed strength to found a nation in the wilderness—and they survived to establish this autumn festival as one of our happiest national customs.

To those simple people, Thanksgiving was personal and sincere. They felt the Spirit at each sunrise and each sunset. And so we carry on and pause a moment in thanks-

giving for the many more blessings we have today. An interesting question is asked in connection with the holiday. "Who established Thanksgiving on the last Thursday in November?" Nine out of every ten people will answer, "the Pilgrim fathers." But that is only a half truth because we owe the establishment of the day to two persons, Abraham Lincoln and Sarah Josepha Hale, woman writer of that period. Up until the Civil War period, the holiday was celebrated on widely separated dates and was not an annual event. In 1827 Mrs. Hale advocated a nation-wide observance, taking her plea to President Lincoln. The precedent was established in 1864. Through her efforts, Thanksgiving won a place in the hearts of the people for all time to come.

Be our portion great or small,
We thank thee, Father, for it all.

OUR FIREMEN INCLUDE FARMERS

Pursuing a neighborly policy for the purpose of saving valuable farm property when possible, the Nyssa volunteer fire department will serve not only the city dwellers in case of fire but property owners who live in the country as well. Our fully equipped modern fire truck possesses a centrifugal pump which will supply a good flow of water in case a ditch or well is near. This equipment is of particular benefit in places where high pressure water is not available.

Good roads and telephones now make it possible to provide rural areas with fire protection but in those cases, such protection is secured by farm organizations, like grange or farm bureau.

Physically, the average farm is made to order for fire. Houses are often of inferior construction and many of them are old and dry and are like tinder when a blaze starts. Barns are filled with inflammable material. Ever present is the danger of fire.

Fortunate is the surrounding country, along with Nyssa, in the installation of the new high-speed, first-class fire apparatus in this city.

CONSERVING OUR GAME

If we are to continue to have good hunting in Oregon sportsmen will have to think of conserving our wild life resources. This is the message that comes from Paul Redington, chief of the United States biological survey, who has visited all the western states, checking on the water-fowl situation and visiting game commissions, sportsmen and biological survey representatives.

Too little stress is placed upon game preservation in this section of the state. Why, we do not know, but we do know that many sportsmen have little regard for the conservation of wild life which supplies them pleasurable sport. If good hunting and fishing are to continue indefinitely, some foresight must be given to protection in time of such need.

Mr. Redington has recommended additional reservations along the main migratory routes as well as additional areas suitable as nesting grounds. Unless this action is taken he warned that additional restrictions in both length of season and bag limits would have to be put on duck and goose hunters.

The feeding and protecting of migratory wild fowls during the winter months is also needed.

It would be wise for Malheur county sportsmen to unite in an effort to secure the development of the natural wild life sanctuary at Owyhee dam.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS BY CLARK WOOD

The inflation is nowhere near so wild as certain of its critics.

Electricity is said by scientists to control the weather, which may explain why it is sometimes shocking weather.

It is evidently better for the football player to break a leg than a training rule.

We look for the Literary Digest to claim that its straw vote broke the Tammany tiger's back.

The gladdening prospect is that gangsters, who are great spenders, will have nothing but their time to spend before long, in places of seclusion.

At all events, President Roosevelt goes ahead as though he is sure he is right.

NOT RECLAMATION, LACK OF BUYING POWER IS FOE

Arook—(To the Journal)—We note with some concern the widespread attacks on the reclamation program. Nor can we enthuse over the idea of curtailing government appropriations for reclamation.

Self liquidating government projects represent progress. What we need is legislation against unscrupulous private promoters and the removal of pork-barrel policies in reclamation work.

It is not a case of curtailing reclamation of new and better lands but the removal of those acres from competitive production, that are today giving no reward to fruitless efforts at farming, and the placing of their owners on better lands, returning the unproductive acreage to a more beneficial and natural use.

This is a matter of national scope embracing a project of such magnitude that it borders on nothing short of inviting a possible disruption of the economic welfare of many states and numerous people.

We want farms and more farms, good ones—individual homes that will keep alive that spark of independence we are so in danger of losing.

Over production? No! Distribution, under consumption, the unequal spread between production costs and the selling price, the inability of the purchasing masses to buy, the unequal distribution of wealth, all bear directly on so-called overproduction. It isn't reclamation. Remove the dross and you will find enough in the cauldron to keep us all busy for many years to come. Yours truly, R. DANNER.

Around the Country

Declaring that the state board of higher education will not countenance "disregard of its authority," the board took steps to investigate the action of Dean Wayne L. Morse of the University of Oregon Saturday in the latest move in the state school row. The board took no action against Dr. Kerr, chancellor, but stated that now is no time to make a change.

Local fans took in the big games Saturday. The Army eleven trounced the Navy 12 to 7, making eight in a row for the Army. Stanford defeated California 7 to 3, University at Los Angeles

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lost to St. Mary 22 to 14.
Penniless Saturday. W. E. White of Portland found \$20,000 in gold awaiting him Sunday. His uncle died in Berkeley, Cal., in 1928 after years of mining. Among his personal effects was found \$275 which buried him. A few days ago a San Francisco bank notified post box hadn't been paid for five years. White that rent on his uncle's safe de-years. Wrapped in a newspaper dated 1912 was gold bullion worth the fortune.

VALE DIRECTORS

E. M. Carter of Harper, C. S. Harris of Jamieson and Ed. Hendrix of Bully creek were elected directors of the Vale irrigation district last week. Fred W. Stacey succeeds D. A. Clore on the Warm Springs board.

It may be goose for Thanksgiving dinner for three Nyssa nimrods, Ed. Wilson, Dr. E. D. Norcott and Artie Robertson, who were successful in bagging several of the big Canadian honkers on the upper Owyhee last Sunday.

Dr. E. D. Norcott DENTIST

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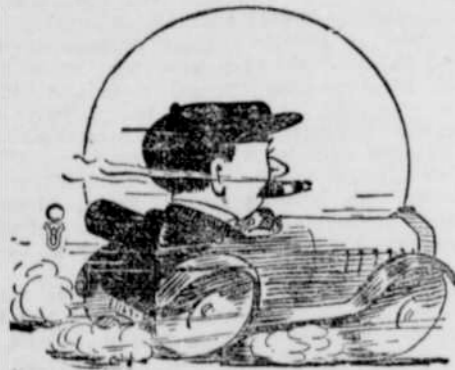
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