

# NYSSA GATE CITY JOURNAL

Published at Nyssa, Oregon

GATEWAY TO THE OWYHEE AND BLACK CANYON IRRIGATION PROJECTS

Fastest Growing Town In Oregon

VOUME XXXII. NO. 4

NYSSA, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1937

\$1.50 PER YEAR

## Nyssa Residents Uneasy Over Prospects of Flood

### Steps Taken To Prepare For High Water—Many Refuse To Be Frightened

Fear of a flood in Nyssa has been a worry to many people in Nyssa, but according to a report made this morning by reclamation engineers, they feel the danger is not great unless the Snake makes an unusual, abnormal and sudden rise. A route for trucks has been mapped out and the CCC camp have agreed to help in case of emergency, along with the reclamation forces here.

It is believed that should the river rise to a threatening level, a crew of men could throw in a dike across the Wilson ditch approximately 100 yards from the mouth of the ditch, which would hold back flood waters.

The city council held a special meeting Tuesday night and members of the council went out to the mouth of the Wilson ditch and personally inspected the situation. They found the ice pushed up in the river until it was standing approximately two feet higher than the bed of the ditch.

Alarmed at the condition, a crew of men were set to work Wednesday morning throwing a dike across the Wilson ditch near the railroad trestle but found it difficult to get enough dirt to make a very large dike. Another meeting was called by Mayor Graham Wednesday afternoon to hear a report made by Captain Marion Tadlock of the local CCC camp. Capt. Tadlock offered the services of the camp in case of an emergency. Harvey Hatch, camp superintendent also spoke briefly on the possibility of a flood and the feasibility of diking.

Guy Sperry and George Haycock of the reclamation force here inspected the river and its relation to the Wilson ditch this morning. Their report was more encouraging and will likely allay the fears of many.

Nyssa was visited by a flood in 1910, the water coming down the Wilson ditch during an unusually heavy spring run-off. At that time the Wilson ditch was in active use carrying water to Ontario. Since 1910, there have been numerous irrigation dams constructed along the Snake and its tributaries, including the Owyhee, Arrowrock, American Falls, Magic, Black Canyon Salmon, and others; so that a flood from a high runoff is extremely unlikely.

The danger at the present time is in the ice in the river. The water is entirely frozen over near Nyssa and practically so from below Weiser extending to Homedale. However residents here remember in 1924 when the river was frozen over and there was no flood. Should the ice jam and form a barrier in the river, it would likely flood over adjacent ground until the barrier was removed, either by force of the river or by dynamite.

The city is keeping a close watch on conditions and in case of a rise in the river and water starts down the Wilson ditch, prompt action will be taken.

### FARMERS SIGN FOR SOIL CONSERVATION BENEFIT PAYMENTS

Today was a busy day at the city hall with nearly 70 farmers signing for Soil Conservation benefit payments. These payments are based on work done by the farmers in conserving the soil and in changing their crops from soil depleting to soil building crops. According to government rules farmers must make application for benefit payments, showing they had followed out the plan as laid down by the government at the start of last crop year.

Seventy farmers have signed in the Nyssa vicinity as being willing to cooperate in the Soil Conservation plan and their checks are expected to arrive around the latter part of February. A total of \$65,000 will be distributed by the federal government in this county under this plan.

A new sign-up is expected to start soon for the 1937 year. The county committee will go to Baker Saturday to get information regarding the 1937 plan and the sign-up will start soon after. Those on the county committee are Pete Tensen, C. M. Beaumont, N. S. Pheasant and J. S. Jones, range representative of Juntura.

Mrs. Charlie McConnell was quite ill with the flu the past week.

### Journal Wins Second Place

A distinct honor was accorded your weekly newspaper, The Gate City Journal, when it was selected at the recent Oregon Editorial Association meeting as the second best weekly in Oregon, for this size town.

This recognition is eagerly sought after by the weeklies of the state and it is a credit to this community that their support has enabled The Gate City Journal to carry off second prize in the state. The Redmond Spokesman of Deschutes county was first this year.

The Journal publisher and staff wish to thank the people of Nyssa for their loyal support which has made possible this recognition of the Journal as an outstanding newspaper of the state of Oregon.

## Many Ducks Get Banquet of Grain

Thousands of ducks in the Nyssa region received several square meals this past week as the result of cooperation between the Oregon Game Commission and the Nyssa Wild Life Club. Several sacks of grain were distributed, but the continued cold weather and heavy snow is working a great hardship on wild life, especially ducks, and a great number of ducks are expected to perish in spite of efforts of sportsmen.

There are more ducks this year than has been noted in the past ten years and practically every drain ditch has its full quota. Feed in the drain ditches, the only unfrozen water to be found, has been nearly exhausted by the frantic efforts of ducks to get something to eat.

The game department in Idaho is also doing their best to feed all the ducks, but in the several feeding grounds operated by the state, they have found so many ducks that it has taken all the assistance and feed they could possibly obtain, and still they cannot take care of them all.

Farmers report ducks lighting right in their barnyards to pick over straw piles, and even come right in with the chickens to get their feed. People interested in the welfare of the ducks, and who can spare the feed, would be doing an excellent service to feed as many as their resources will allow, as the ducks are in danger of perishing by the thousands.

Pheasants seem to be faring fairly well, in spite of deep snow. They are able to scratch down through the deep snow and get a feed of weed seeds, grains and other forage.

One of the favorite haunts of ducks is at the Hot Springs near the Tom Lowe place at Mitchell Butte. Mr. Lowe has been feeding a good many that come to a small lake near his house and the CCC camp has a small supply of grain they are distributing at other points in the Owyhee district.

Besides ducks and pheasants at the Tom Lowe place, a flock of approximately a dozen mountain quail have been seen feeding. Mountain Quail are very rare in this part of the county.

### LEGION JUNIORS

#### MEET TONIGHT

American Legion Juniors and those eligible for membership are invited to Mrs. Elmer E. Cloninger's home Thursday night at 7 P. M. to start Junior activities. Members will be instructed in home nursing and first aid.

### JAYHAWKERS PLAN GOOD

#### TIME FOR FRIDAY NIGHT

All former residents of Kansas are reminded of the first annual banquet scheduled for Friday night, January 29th in the Community church basement. A covered dish dinner will be held, followed by a program and entertainment. The date, January 29th, is the birthday of Kansas and marks the day Kansas was admitted to the Union.

## Final Gift Day Held Wednesday

### Merchants Express Their Appreciation To Patrons For Success of Campaign

Nyssa Gift Days held Wednesday afternoon attracted an unusually large crowd, considering road and weather conditions, and a total of \$50 was distributed to Nyssa patrons. The usual keen interest was manifest as the names were drawn from the barrel on Main Street.

Winner of one \$10 award was Mrs. R. L. Patton and Bud Wilson was the winner of the other. Mrs. Ed Warren was awarded \$7; Bud Wilson \$5 and Francis Ray \$3. Those awarded \$1 prizes were Dick Adams, Ed Warren, W. A. Nye, C. A. Marshall, Mrs. Jacob Groot, W. W. Foster, Mrs. J. E. Bowen, Bud Wilson, Francis Ray, L. E. Wilson, Mrs. Goodier Mrs. F. W. Sills, Tom Dixon, Mrs. Chas. Toombs and Ted Frahm.

New members of the Mourners Club made up of those not present to claim their award were W. F. Corn, T. C. Furguson, Agnes Horn, Mary Hart, Mr. Atagi and Robert Duff.

The Gift Day Wednesday was the last for this season and at this time the business men would like to express their appreciation of the support an interest shown by patrons. The conduct of the affair has been a distinct pleasure to business men of Nyssa and expresses in a small measure the gratitude they feel toward the many patrons of Nyssa.

## Ice Loses Victim When Men Save Bradford Friday

"Blacky" Bradford, bachelor resident of one of the islands in the Snake River approximately a mile south of Nyssa knows how it feels to receive "flood relief." He was rescued Friday evening after being ice-bound in the middle of Snake river most of the afternoon.

Bradford went over to the island Thursday and intended to sleep there that night. Old Man River was in a mean mood that night and the strong current rolled up an ice barrier below the island and in a surprising short time the waters had come up enough to overrun the island and started invading the house. Blacky took his bed, axe and a few belongings to the attic and attempted to sleep, but it was a little hard to sleep soundly with the waters raising steadily just a few feet below his attic perch.

In the morning, things had gone from bad to worse. There was several feet of water in the cabin and the only outlet was to chop a hole in the roof, which Blacky proceeded to do. Perched on top of the roof he signaled for help and finally attracted the attention of the Jordans who live across from the island. More help arrived, but were powerless to do anything as the river was a mass of treacherous ice. There were places where the ice was frozen solid and other places where the current still cut a narrow swath.

Bradford did about the only thing he could, he put his belongings in his boat, which fortunately was still available; and started across the river. His progress was slow and not very certain. Finally the boat became frozen in the ice and he chopped, chopped and chopped but progress was very slow. He faced the prospect of sleeping in that boat in midstream all night and zero weather made it a very unpleasant thought.

In the meantime more and more people gathered on the shore. Many theories were advanced as to how the man could be rescued but nothing practical. Finally a chalk line was secured from the reclamation office and a mighty heave succeeded in getting it to the boat. A rope was fastened to the boat but it parted when an attempt was made to pull the ice bound boat free.

With darkness already at hand, Dan Buchanan of Vale, who had been to be in the crowd tried a theory of his own. He took two planks; laid the first one on the treacherous ice and walked out on it. Nothing happened, so he laid the other down and went further out. Still nothing happened, so he proceeded by this slow but dangerous method and finally arrived at the boat. The two men came back to shore by the same method, leaving boat and bedding in the river. Next morning the ice had frozen sufficiently that Bradford was able to get to his boat and finally succeeded in getting it to shore.

# Sugar Company Will Build On Land Adjoining Nyssa

## An Appeal For Aid

My Fellow Citizens: We who live in God's Country and appreciate the climate and conditions afforded us by our residence, feel a great sympathy with those fellow citizens of the flood devastated area's back east, and while we do feel sorry for them, we can go a step further and be the real Big Brother's and Sister's that we really are, by helping them to the fullest extent of our financial ability in giving our money towards the relief of those sufferers, who are just like you and me, fellow American Citizens.

The God inspired American Red Cross organization is doing its very utmost to help the terrible situation, and they need your help and mine to carry on, so let's do our part, even tho its the "Widows Mite" as every cent will help those fellow citizens back east in their tragic condition.

To recite the tragedies would be futile on my part, you know them as I do, it is really beyond description, its a 100 per cent worse than War, because War is brought about by men for their own selfish reasons, whereas these floods are nature, which is the battle of all living beings, therefore we must all be Brother to Brother no more than ever in these terrible times.

To enable the American Red Cross to carry on, bring your donations to the Bank, or to the office of Frank T. Morgan or to my office, or to Mrs. Dick Tensen, and do this right away as the money is needed worse than money was ever needed before.

When you help, you will feel better in the knowledge that you have done your part and carried out that wonderful message that our Mother's passed to us, thru their light the "Holy Book" "Do unto others that you would have others do unto you."

Please help to the fullest extent, even tho it runs you short for awhile, and remember every nickle counts at a time like this.

Respectfully yours in Service,

DON M. GRAHAM

Mayor, The City of Nyssa, Oregon.

## Weiser To Play Here Saturday

Basketball will again occupy the center of the sports spotlight this week end after three weeks without a home game. Friday night the locals play the strong Vale squad at Vale and Saturday night, Weiser will play on the local floor. Both of these games are important for the locals and a win each night will definitely stamp Nyssa as the outstanding team of the district.

Nyssa has already won victories over Huntington, New Plymouth, Parma, Nampa, Ontario and Emmett. Their only loss was a one point defeat by New Plymouth in the small Plymouth gym.

The game with Weiser Saturday night will be the last game before the annual Snake River Valley tournament, scheduled for February 4th, 5th and 6th in Ontario. Nyssa will take part in the tournament along with teams from Vale, Ontario, Parma, Payette, Weiser, Emmett Fruitland and New Plymouth.

The first tipoff Saturday night will be at seven o'clock for the second team game with the varsity game to start at eight. The plan is to finish the ball games before the annual President's Ball, also scheduled for Saturday night in the local gym.

### PLAN FATHER AND SON AFFAIR FOR FEB. 12

The Ladies Aid of the Community church are planning a tamale feed for Fathers and Sons, and have set February 12th as the date for the affair.

## 'ROUND TOWN

Much interest being shown in eastern floods... Brud Short finds scanty attire big handicap in shoveling snow in 23 below weather... Spring thaw sends many to roofs to repair leaks... Only bare ground in town is under Bill Coleman's car in front of sandwich stand... Boys eying Dewey Ray's and Dr. Sarazin's fur coats with envious look... Beet company's purchase brings poy to Nyssa folks... We should be hearing about soft ball soon... Buddy Edwards now reported to be in San Francisco... Coal shortage averted by arrival of several carloads... Help the Red Cross... Come to the President's Ball... Buy in Nyssa...

### FRIENDS HERE SHOCKED BY ANDERSON SUICIDE

Friends in Nyssa were saddened Monday by news of the death of Robert S. Anderson, 50, of Boise, who died Sunday afternoon as the result of a self-inflicted wound. Anderson is the man who installed the refrigerating machinery at Halverson's, Wilson's, Bob Freeman's and Whity Williams'. He had been here several times and had formed quite an acquaintance around town. His son Robert Jr., is also known around Nyssa as a paper salesman for Blake Moffitt and Towne.

Death was from a self-inflicted shotgun wound. In his clothes was a note which said in part, "looks like this is the best way out. Dad." He was said to have been despondent because of poor health and financial worries. He is survived by his wife; two sons and a daughter. The remains were shipped to Rocky Ford, Colorado Tuesday for funeral services and burial.

### OREGON AIR MAIL HEAVIEST IN HISTORY

The greatest air mail year in its history was recorded by Oregon in 1936 when its citizens sent 229,329 pounds of correspondence over the airways, it was reported today in official figures released by Postmaster Goshert.

The record-breaking total represented a gain of 13,223 pounds, or more than six per cent, over Oregon's 1935 air mail volume. Of the total, 197,470 pounds were dispatched from Portland, 10,522 pounds from Pendleton and 21,327 pounds from Medford, as the three points in Oregon at which air mail planes stop.

Still further gains in the speed of air mail service, plus added schedules and a continued growth of the nation's vast airway network are expected to contribute to even larger air mail loads in 1937, Postmaster Goshert said.

### POMONA GRANGE MEETS AT PARK SCHOOL HOUSE

An all day meeting of the Pomona Grange was held Saturday at the Park school north of Ontario. The meeting was sponsored by the Oregon Slope Grange but all members brought food for the noon luncheon.

The Frank Wards who live near the river moved to town last Saturday evening and will be here until all danger of high water from the river is past. Others who moved to town were the Buell Clements who are staying with the Hugh Glasgows and the A. J. Richeys who are at the home of Mrs. Cunningham.

## Buy 195 Acres In Grieg and Hanson Farms To Carry On Operations Here

The Amalgamated Sugar Company entered the Nyssa territory Wednesday in a substantial way with the purchase of the 185 acre E. M. Grieg ranch directly east of Nyssa at a reputed price of \$15,000 cash. The Hansen 10 acres, which joins the Grieg ranch on the south and is bounded by the Snake river, was also purchased by the sugar manufacturing company.

The company will start immediate construction of a warehouse, approximately 40 by 100 feet to house the district offices of the company and storage space for machinery, seed and other equipment. All the clerical work for the district from Weiser to Caldwell will be handled from the Nyssa office. The warehouse will be built in the northwest corner of the company's newly acquired land, close to the highway.

## President's Ball Will Be Held Sat.

Officers of the company in Nyssa Wednesday to make the deal were H. A. Benning, general manager of the company; R. H. Tallman, district manager; and J. R. Bachman, secretary of the company.

The company will likely construct a sugar factory at a later date if present plans materialize. H. A. Benning, general manager for the company stated that it was the company's intention to construct a sugar factory for the 1938 crop if the acreage in the territory justified the two million dollar expenditure.

Farmers near Nyssa have been especially enthusiastic for sugar beets since the two successful crops the past two years, and a total of some 5,000 acres have already been signed in the territory from Weiser to Caldwell, with a big bulk of this acreage near Nyssa. By planting time it is expected this acreage will be likely increased to six or seven thousand acres; which would almost assure a factory for 1938. In case the company decided to build a factory, it is likely that ground will be broken sometime next summer. Company officials are authority for the statement that in the territory from Weiser to Caldwell, there is room for three or four sugar beet factories and the only requirement is sufficient acreage to keep a factory busy.

Farmers and business men are enthusiastic over the company's decision to make Nyssa their base of operations and many farmers who have hesitated about signing for an acreage of beets are expected to "play ball with the company" by growing the beets they desire.

The company's decision to make such a substantial purchase of property on the very outskirts of Nyssa would seem to indicate their faith in the future of Nyssa as a sugar beet producing area. The past year's crop proved to the company that beets in this territory have an especially high sugar content, and yields have been such to make the crop a very profitable one.

The company is also believed to have had an eye on the thousands of acres of new land of the Owyhee project, which will make ideal beet land in a very few years. These lands are settling fast with a very desirable type of settler and there is strong proof to back up the prediction of several experienced men that Nyssa, in a comparatively short time, will become the "Sugar Bowl" of the United States.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon in the Community church for D. MacLafferty, 87, who passed away Saturday, January 23 at the home of his son, Dr. B. N. MacLafferty of Aberdeen, Washington. Mr. MacLafferty was an old-timer around Nyssa, coming here in 1915 but three months ago he went to Aberdeen to visit his son's family living there. While visiting in the Washington city he contracted pneumonia and passed away. The body arrived in Nyssa on the Portland Rose Monday and put in charge of the Nyssa Funeral Home.

The beautiful services were in charge of the Seven Day Adventists church, with Elder Turner of Boise giving the funeral service. Music was furnished by a duet from the Ad-ventist school of Caldwell.

D. MacLafferty was born in New York in 1849 and it was while living in the east that he met and married Mary Louisa Spaulding in 1868. To this union were born four sons, three of whom survive and were present at the funeral services Tuesday. The body of Mr. MacLafferty was laid to rest beside the body of his wife in the Nyssa cemetery.

He and his family came west in 1889, spending a short time in the Wallowa valley and then settling in the Grays Harbor region in Washington where he was in business in Aberdeen for many years. He moved to Nyssa in 1915 and has since made his home here.

Mr. MacLafferty was a loyal S.D.A. for more than 40 years and took an active part in all lines of church work.

He is survived by his three sons, George C. MacLafferty of Nyssa; Dr. B. N. MacLafferty of Aberdeen, Washington and N. C. MacLafferty of Soquel, California.

### WIND WEDNESDAY NIGHT BLOCKED ROADS AGAIN

The wind which came up Wednesday evening blew several roads shut again, but warmer weather Thursday started the snow thawing and it was really pleasant outside. Country roads are being cleared again and traffic will soon be again traveling unhampered.

Temperatures have been up and it is possible a warm wind may come at any time. Schools were opened again Monday and the following day the attendance was up to a very satisfactory figure. Sickness seems to be on the wane, although many are still indisposed. Attendance in school is much better than ten days ago.

Mrs. E. Blodgett returned home last Saturday night from a months visit with her daughter Mrs. Tom Burton and family at La Grande and with relatives at Cove.