

NYSSA GATE CITY JOURNAL

Published at Nyssa, Oregon

GATEWAY TO THE OWYHEE AND BLACK CANYON IRRIGATION PROJECTS

Fastest Growing Town In Oregon

VOLUME XXXII. NO. 19.

NYSSA, OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1937

\$1.50 PER YEAR

Charter Change Authorized By Strong Majority

Voting Light Tuesday as Big Majority Mark Ballots "Yes."

All the proposed charter amendments carried by handsome majorities at the election Tuesday, with the largest majority being rolled up on the proposition to change the name of the municipality from "Town" to "City." This was a minor change, but has far-reaching effects.

Only six voters opposed the proposition to exclude certain lands lying east of the railroad tracks from the city, which were purchased last winter by the Amalgamated Sugar Company. This measure carried 131 to 6.

Greatest opposition developed on the proposition to amend the charter giving the council power to force property owners abutting on or adjacent to the sewer, to connect to sewer. However this measure carried by a vote of 109 to 18. Fourteen were opposed to changing the term of city offices from one year to two years, and 120 voted for the measure.

A total of 137 votes were cast in the election, with most measures carrying with better than a ten to one majority. Judges at the election were Frank Hall, Mrs. Ethel Crawford and Mrs. Fred Marshall.

Morfitt Funeral Held Tuesday

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at the Community church for Chester Wallace Morfitt, 50, who passed away early Saturday morning at the Dixon hospital from pneumonia.

Mr. Morfitt was a well known farmer of the Owyhee community and had lived in that vicinity for the past six years. He was a member of an old Malheur county family and the funeral Tuesday was attended by a large crowd of mourning friends and relatives.

Rev. Floyd White delivered the funeral services, with music by Mrs. John Poage and Mrs. Al Thompson accompanied by Mrs. Floyd White. Pall bearers were Ness Hatt, Frank Crocker, Henry Truelson, Mr. Duglan, Geo. Kaylor and S. D. Bigelow.

Chester Wallace Morfitt was born at Bridgeport, Oregon on July 10th, 1886 and was 50 years, 9 months and 28 days of age at his passing. He was married at Vale, Oregon in 1907 to Miss Abbie Smith and to this union, five children were born. They are Robert, Winnie, Raymond and Calvin Morfitt, all of Nyssa and Mrs. Dorothy Davis of Homevale; and one grandchild, Roberta.

ART GARDE ACQUITTED AT TRIAL THURSDAY

Art Garde, who was brought to trial Thursday on a vagrancy charge signed by Mayor Don M. Graham, was acquitted by the jury Thursday afternoon. Those on the jury were Jess Thompson, foreman; Wallace Lynch, Bernard Frost, Chas. Leuck, Roy Pounds and Aden Wilson. Attorney Robt. Lees of Ontario represented the defendant and A. L. Fletcher, city attorney, prosecuted the case, which was heard before Police Judge A. R. Millar.

The W. C. T. U. will meet at the home of Mrs. C. W. Reberger on Tuesday, May 18.

MAXIE'S CONFECTIONERY OPENS FOR BUSINESS

A new business establishment opened its door for business Monday when Maxie's Confectionery Shop started serving customers. The new place of business is located next to the Baldrige Implement and in the location formerly occupied by Ruth's Beauty Nook and Rubye Lou's Beauty shop.

New equipment has been installed, along with a prettily decorated floor and other improvements. The shop is operated by Mr. and Mrs. S. C. McConnell and their daughter Maxine, who recently came from Alliance, Nebraska. They handle root beer, ice cream, candy and other articles found in better confectionery stores.

SCHOOL CHILDREN HAVE TEETH EXAMINED BY DENTIST

Dr. E. D. Norcott completed a dental survey of school children Wednesday and found that out of the 146 high school pupils examined 136 had defects in their teeth. Fifteen were marked as needing teeth extraction, 36 as needing their teeth cleaned by a dentist. Of the 136 marked as having permanent teeth decayed, 71 had four or more needing attention and 65 had from one to four teeth needing attention.

A total of 28 third grade pupils were examined last week and Wednesday of this week was a big day at the dentist's office when 315 pupils in the grade schools were examined. No report is available yet as to the number of children needing dental attention in this group.

Music Program Well Received

Amidst a setting of spring flowers and greenery the Nyssa Civic Chorus presented their annual Music Week program to a large and appreciative audience. The members were dressed in keeping with the spring motif with the women wearing pastel colored evening gowns and the men wore gray spring suits. All the numbers were well presented and were evidence for the hard work done to be able to give to Nyssa music lovers a treat of this kind. Mr. Samuel Reid of Ontario directed the program and Mrs. W. C. Jackson was pianist.

The first number was a selection by the Nyssa High School orchestra who were making their first public appearance under the direction of Mr. Walter Rosebraugh, local high school teacher. Members of the chorus then marched to their places upon the stage and immediately a page, Phyllis Haworth announced the arrival of King Richard, Master Richard Wilson, who was crowned King of Music Week. He was attended by Page Betty Flanary. King Richard delighted the audience with his Lullaby, sung to the accompaniment of his sister June Marie Wilson at the piano. Following this the Chorus sang two numbers, Plantation and Ma Little Banjo and Mrs. John Young and Charles Jones sang a duet, Sunshine of Your Smile. At the close of the following number, a Lullaby, by the Chorus the little king, who had gone to sleep, was gently removed from the stage, followed by his attendants.

Howard Larsen, Jr., next sang a ballad, When I Think Upon the Maidens and the Chorus sang Neapolitan Nights. Mrs. Elmo Higgenson, soprano, sang a light song from Romeo and Juliet, *Jest Perfume* and Dances, which was followed by a selection by the women's chorus, Boats of Mine. Mrs. Herbert Fisher played two violin numbers, *Reverie* H. Vieuxtemps and *Shon Rosmarin* and the men's trio sang *Tally Ho*. The Chorus presented John Peeler; a mixed quartette sang *Perfect Day* and the program was brought to an end by a selection by the entire chorus, "Spring Is Here With Joy and Song."

Members of the high school orchestra appearing on the program were Evelyn Haworth, piano; Lloyd and Huston Wilson, clarinets; June Marie Wilson and Charles Paradis, violins; Leland Morse, trumpet; Warren Larsen, saxophone and Hollis DeGroot, drums.

The personnel of the chorus included: sopranos, Mrs. Higgenson, Lucille Rinehart, Clara Rettle, Kate Young, Ruth Warnock and Mrs. Howard Larsen; Altos, Libby Ann Jones, Margaret Galley, Herbert Fisher, Mrs. John Young, Reta Fugate, Mrs. Walter Rosebraugh; Tenors; Grant Rinehart and Charles Jones; Bass, Howard Larsen, Jr., George Reberger and Neil Jackson.

Spring Flower Exhibit Planned

The Civic Club are planning to hold a spring flower exhibit at their meeting May 19th in the Eagles hall and are extending an invitation to every woman in the community to attend the meeting. There will be a Guest Day program given under the direction of Mrs. Wm. Schreman.

Everyone desiring to exhibit flowers should bring them to the basement of the Eagles hall prior to 2:30; and after the program and flower exhibit, refreshments will be served by a committee headed by Mrs. H. R. Quinby. Cars will be available, and the latter part of the afternoon will be devoted to making a tour of inspection of various gardens of the vicinity.

Commencement Planned For 34 H. S. Graduates

Baccalaureate to be Held May 23; Commencement Set for 27th.

Thirty-four seniors of the local high school will complete their high school work and receive diplomas at Commencement Exercises to be held in the gymnasium on the evening of May 27th. It is the largest graduating class in the history of the local school.

The annual Senior play is scheduled for Friday night, March 21st with Baccalaureate Services to be held Sunday evening, May 23 in the gym. Rev. Dallas MarNeil, pastor of the Methodist church at Payette has been selected to deliver the main address, and the Civic Chorus will be in charge of the music. School will be out for the entire school system on Friday, May 28th when students will return for their final report cards in a half-day final session.

The Dixon Nursing Home is moving June 1st from their present location in the Towne house to the house in the north part of town owned by W. F. McLaughlin.

League Team To Battle Ontario

Box Score	AR	H	R	E
Hashitani, cf	4	2	5	0
Abendroth, ss	6	3	1	0
G. Johnston, 3b	6	4	2	0
Irwin, lf	5	2	0	0
Servoss, lb	5	0	0	0
Norcott, rf	4	1	0	1
Schweizer, 2b	4	2	1	0
Young, c	3	0	1	0
D. Johnston, p	2	0	2	0
Rosebraugh, rf	1	0	0	0
Dilly, rf	1	0	0	0
	14	12	1	

Nyssa won their second start in the Idaho-Oregon league Sunday at Weiser when they pounded three Weiser pitchers for a total of 14 hits and trounced the Idahoans 12 to 2. Dean Johnston was on the mound for Nyssa and yielded 9 scattered hits and was accorded excellent support by his team mates.

Some of the features of the game was a sensational running catch made by Art Norcott in the fifth inning, which robbed Smith of a hit and a play made by George Johnston in the 4th when he handled a hot liner from Brubaker's bat. Johnston also led the hitting with four safeties out of 6 trips to the plate. Hashitani had the distinction of scoring five runs and only being officially charged with four times at bat, as he was walked three times.

Weiser's principal weakness was on the mound, three pitchers being used to no avail. Nyssa drew a total of nine walks during the game.

Batteries: Nyssa, Johnston and Young; Weiser, Brubaker Glass, McCord and Anderson.

Play Ontario Sunday

The largest crowd of the season is expected to flock to the local field Sunday afternoon when Ontario will meet up with the locals. Ontario has a good team this year, while the locals made a perfect record so far this season. It's no secret that Nyssa would rather give Ontario a trouncing than to beat any other team in the league. With the inter-city rivalry so keen, it is expected that a large crowd of both local and Ontario fans will be here Sunday for the game.

Other I-O Results

Payette had their record spoiled Sunday when Boise took a hard fought game at the capital city, 9 to 4. Caldwell kept their record clean by noosing out Vale 2 to 1 at Vale when McEwen of Caldwell knocked a homer in the 9th inning with one man up. Up to that point in the game Vale had a one-run lead. Tuesday night Ontario lost to Emmett 5 to 7 in a game played under the floodlights.

RETURNS FROM HONEYMOON

J. J. Chandler, meat cutter at Eder's returned this week from a honeymoon trip to San Francisco and other coast points. He was married last week to Miss Ruth Lacy of Boise, an employee in the state house.

Crossing Accident Monday At Nyssa Takes Five Lives

Coroner's Jury Says Accident "Unavoidable"

Jury Fails To Blame Railroad But Asks For Underpass.

The coroner's inquest held Monday and Tuesday afternoons following the accident in which five lost their lives, exonerated the railroad crew from any blame in their report of an "unavoidable accident." The coroner's jury made note of the danger of the crossing however, and recommended that an underpass be built. Those on the jury were Ernest Wilson, John Cancelmo, Ronald Burke, J. F. Daelhausen, Roy Pounds and Emil Paulus.

The inquest was conducted by Coroner R. A. Tacke and District Attorney M. A. Biggs, assisted by Dr. J. J. Sarazin. The hearing started Monday, but questioning of witnesses was deferred until Tuesday at the request of T. E. Williams, division superintendent of the Union Pacific who asked for time to get to Nyssa for the inquest. Other Union Pacific officials present at the inquest Tuesday included L. A. Collins, trainmaster of Nampa; Mr. Hills safety agent of Pocatello; Mr. Orr, signal supervisor of Nampa; A. C. Ahrensden, claim agent of La Grande and H. Jellen, claim agent of Nampa.

The hearing Monday was limited to testimony of relatives, who gave information for the records regarding birthdates and other information. The jury was taken to the Nyssa Funeral Home to view the bodies, after which the inquest adjourned to Tuesday.

The first two witnesses Tuesday gave information regarding the victims. Edna Graham and Albert Kruger, both of Payette, gave the ages, birthplace, parents and other information concerning Marie Graham, Eugene Thrash and Marion Kruger, three of the victims.

Claude Marshall, ditch rider for the Bureau of Reclamation, was the first eye witness called. He said he was standing east of the railroad when he saw two cars coming from the west. One got ahead of the train and the other was struck. He testified the signal was working and that he heard the whistle blow. He estimated the speed of the train to be about 35 miles an hour.

E. J. Sheneberger, who was standing at the south end of the Amalgamated Sugar Company warehouse at the time of the accident, but whose view of the actual accident was cut off by a house, testified that he heard the whistle and the signal bell operating.

John Todd, standing at the northwest corner of the depot and 85 feet from the accident by measurement, testified he saw the two cars approaching as the train was coming down the track. He heard the train whistle and saw one car go across ahead of the train. The driver of the second car applied the brakes just before getting to the main track, he testified, and then shot ahead, evidently deciding that they could get across.

A. L. Hooper of Parma was approaching from the east, in a car, testified he saw the train coming and pulled to the right side of the highway near the beet company warehouse to wait for it to go by. He saw the car approaching and saw the train hit it. He testified the highway signal was working but said he didn't recall hearing the train whistle.

Ike Boren, section foreman saw the accident while he was standing in the door of his house, about 400 feet away. He saw the pickup go across ahead of the train and saw the other car hesitate, then drive into the path of the train. Mr. Boren testified he heard both the whistle and the signal bell.

Ralph Lawrence was standing in front of the service station at the time of the accident. The Terraplane pickup had just driven out of his station and he watched both cars driving down the street. He also testified the accident car hesitated.



Two views of the death car following the accident Monday morning in which five people lost their life. It was one of the worst accidents in Nyssa history. A coroner's jury Tuesday absolved the train crew from any blame for the accident. -Cut Courtesy of Statesman.

High School Ball Team Play Ontario For Pennant

Grange Picnic To Be Held At Owyhee Dam

The granges of the county will hold their annual picnic at the Owyhee Dam on Sunday, May 23rd and all grangers, civic groups and friends are invited to attend the affair.

SOFT BALL PROVIDES KEEN AMUSEMENT

Softball continues to be a major evening attraction, with either practice or league games held nearly every evening. Friday night the Reclamation played the newly organized Outlaw team, with the government boys taking the long end of the game, 5 to 1. The same night the Journal team went to Ontario and won a 19 to 10 victory from the Safeway team there.

The Outlaws shoved the Beeler Boys into the cellar Tuesday night when they eked out a 6 to 7 victory on the local lot. The same night the Reclamation team went to Caldwell to play a league game and ran up a score of 25 to 5 against the American Legion team of Caldwell.

Tomorrow night the Journal team will cross bats with the Reclamation team to see which will remain at the top of the league standings. All teams have ordered sweaters, with the Beeler Boys the first to be fully outfitted. Most of the rest of the games this season will see the teams brightly outfitted; with interest getting keener every day. Due to the fact the town ball club has decided to use their old field for practice, the games are being played on the high school field. There is no admission charge for the games, which are scheduled to get underway at 6:30 on Tuesday and Friday evenings.

Mrs. Margaret Pashley visited Sunday with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Newby in Huntington.

Train Crashes Into Car Trying To Beat Crossing

Car Hesitates Before Going In Front of West Bound Freight

Five people lost their lives as the result of a collision at 6:57 Monday morning between a west-bound Union Pacific freight and a car driven by Mrs. Marie Graham of Payette. The accident happened at the grade crossing in Nyssa and was the worst crossing accident in Nyssa's history.

The dead are:

Mrs. Marie Graham, 34 years old the day of the accident, who died at 6:05 Tuesday morning in the Ontario hospital.

Mrs. Lewis F. Buffington, 23, of Caldwell who died in the Ontario hospital an hour after the accident.

Mrs. M. J. Buffington, 34, Payette, instantly killed.

Eugene Thrash, 15, son of Mrs. Graham, who died at the scene of the accident.

Marion Kruger, 13, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kruger of Payette, died at scene of accident.

As the events leading up to the accident were reconstructed, the car left Hogue's camp near Payette early Monday morning with the intention of weeding onions near Nyssa. The crew had been setting out cabbage plants the last three days of the previous week and were to start weeding onions Monday. Arriving at Nyssa they were told the onion field had some water flooded on it, and work would not start until later.

The car stopped at Chadwick's service station for gasoline, and according to Mr. Chadwick, there were two older women in the front seat, with the young boy and girl, and the younger woman in the back seat of the Chevrolet sedan. He filled the car with gasoline shortly before seven o'clock in the morning.

The car headed east with the intention of driving back to Payette. When they were about in front of the drug store a Terraplane pickup driven by L. C. "Whitey" Hight, drove out of Lawrence Service Station in front of them, the accident car being possibly 50 feet to the rear. A train was coming from the direction of the bridge, and according to evidence brought out at the inquest, the whistle blew four times, the bell was ringing and the signal at the crossing was working.

Mr. Hight said he saw the train, and also the signal working, but the train was still quite a ways down the track and he figured he had ample time to cross, and he went ahead. He sped away and it was not until Monday night that he learned that the car following him 50 feet to the rear had met with an accident.

Eyewitnesses said the death car approached the crossing at a reasonable speed and when crossing the first tracks which run west of the depot, the car slackened its speed. When almost onto the main line track the driver put on the brakes but the momentum carried the car on so that the front wheels were on the track. The train was bearing down on them, running at (Continued on Page 4)

GOSPEL SERVICES BEING HELD AT KINGMAN KOLONY

A series of undenominational Gospel services are being held in the Kingman Kolony schoolhouse on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday nights, starting at 8:30.

Miss Sarah Humphries and Miss Lillian Willis, evangelists, extend a hearty invitation for all to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gossett of Caldwell were dinner guests Wednesday night at Jess Thompson home. Mr. Gossett is a former resident of Nyssa and at the present time is Lieut. Governor of Idaho.

PLANNING BOARD AND COUNCIL TO HOLD JOINT MEET

A joint meeting of the Planning Commission and City Council is planned for Friday night in the city hall. The meeting will start at 8 o'clock and the public is invited to attend.

The council intends to take up the business of canvassing the election returns while the Planning Commission will hold a hearing on a proposed zoning ordinance, and discuss other matters pertaining to the welfare of the city.

LEGION AUXILIARY TO SELL POPPIES SOON

Plans have been made by the local post of the American Legion Auxiliary to sell poppies in honor of the war victims on two days this year. The poppies will be sold Thursday, May 20th and again on Saturday, May 29th.