

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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Too Big for the Highway Department

Friday's tragedy that cost the lives of two men when a bridge across the Owyhee river collapsed brought a coroner's jury verdict, "We do not find any criminal negligence on the part of any specific person." Such a verdict most certainly does not absolve the state highway department, or even the citizens of Oregon, for some blame for a system that has been allowed to grow for several years.

Crews working on the bridge cannot be blamed in any way whatsoever for their workmanship nor for any part in allowing the flimsy structure to remain standing for seven months. There is no excuse for the highway department's dilly-dallying for more than half a year before starting to rebuild the bridge. Lack of highway funds, moreover, cannot be used as an excuse.

The Union Pacific railroad, which lost several hundred yards of embankment in the same flood last April, completed repairs in a matter of days to permit normal movement of trains over its branch line to Homedale. During the same period the state highway to Adrian was completely closed while the highway officials pondered the question of repairs or replacement, keeping their plans, if any, a deep, dark secret. Later in the summer makeshift "repairs" were made by bracing the sagging structure with steel girders to allow one-way traffic over the bridge.

From there on out, the public was kept in the dark about plans for the bridge. It was assumed that a new bridge was to be built when an earth-fill crossing was constructed a few hundred feet up the river and traffic detoured for a short distance. The public would have been far more tolerant had it been informed about the cause for the delay.

The Nov. 4 election was just as much of a mandate to government agencies like Oregon's highway department as it was to national bureaus that the American public is somewhat tired of small groups of public officials attempting to compete with private business at additional costs to the taxpayers and inefficiencies in their methods of operation.

The state highway department attempted and failed to master-mind a job too big for it.

Had this department hired a private contractor to work with its own crews, as did the Union Pacific railroad and as is done by many other states, a new bridge probably would have been completed months ago and possibly two lives would have been spared.

Attend Church Somewhere

"Attend Church Somewhere" is the theme of county-wide efforts of the Malheur county Ministerial association and the county Parent-Teachers association to arouse general interest in the house of worship. Next Sunday has been designated as a special day for everyone to attend the church of his choice and it is only fitting and proper that the efforts of these two groups are met with wholehearted response.

In spite of reports to the contrary, we believe the American public is closer to God than at any time in past

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history. Many are neglectful about regular church attendance, but a new wave of soul-searching is sweeping the nation and could be the result of fear of imminent destruction by bombs, our acknowledged failure to fulfill obligations to which we know we are committed or a new and rejuvenated effort on the part of the church to attract people from all walks of life.

In any event, we should all help fill Nyssa's churches to overflowing Sunday—it is possible that you will find something has been missed on previous sabbaths and there will be a new incentive to attend on following Sundays.

Clyde Snider, Nyssa attorney, explains his reasons for attending church in the following statement:

"I attend church services to give my soul a lift. My spiritual life needs communion with my concept of God. 'In God we trust' means little unless we keep in touch with God. Going to church is a spiritual quest to make this trust a reality. I find in church strength for spirit, and serenity, and the will to move in the right direction."

CHURCH NOTES

THE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
 Robert Jackson, Pastor
 10 a. m., Sunday school.
 11 p. m., morning worship.
 7 p. m., N.Y.P.S. and Junior meetings.
 7:45 p. m., evangelistic service.

COMMUNITY METHODIST CHURCH
 Dr. H. G. McCallister, Minister
 9:45 a. m., church school.
 11 a. m., morning worship.
 7 p. m., Youth Fellowship.

L. D. S. 2nd WARD
 D. Hubert Christensen, Bishop
 9:15 a. m., priesthood meeting.
 10:30 a. m., Sunday school.
 8 p. m., sacrament meeting.
 Tuesday, 2 p. m., relief society.
 Wednesday, 4 p. m., primary; 8 p. m., M.T.A.

FREE METHODIST CHURCH
 Adrian, Oregon
 10 a. m., church school.
 11 a. m., morning worship.

MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 Elder Haskell Dane, Pastor
 10 a. m., Sunday school.
 11 a. m., morning worship.
 8 p. m., evening worship.
 Wednesday, 8 p. m., prayer service.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Parma, Idaho
 McConnell Ave.
 O. E. Robinson, Minister
 10 a. m., Bible study.
 11 a. m., morning worship.
 8 p. m., Sunday evening service.
 Wednesday, 8 p. m., Bible study.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 Frank C. Coley, Pastor
 South 2nd and Keene Ave.
 10 a. m., Sunday school.
 11 a. m., morning worship.
 8 p. m., evangelistic service.
 Tues., 8 p. m., prayer service.
 Fri., 8 p. m., young people.

L. D. S. 1st WARD
 Gordon Ray, Bishop
 9:15 a. m., priesthood meeting.
 10:30 a. m., Sunday school.
 7:30 p. m., sacrament meeting.
 Tuesday, 2 p. m., relief society.
 Wednesday, 4 p. m., primary; 7:30 p. m., M. I. A.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 C. T. Crenshaw, Rector
 9:45 a. m., Sunday school.
 11 a. m., worship services.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Fifth Street and Park Avenue
 John L. Briehl, Pastor
 10 a. m., Sunday school.
 11 a. m., divine worship.
 Wed., 8 p. m., Christian education class.
 You are cordially invited to worship with us.

CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Park Avenue and Third Street
 Rembert Ahles, O. F. M.
 Mass Sunday at 8 and 10 a. m. and daily at 8 a. m.
 9 a. m., Catechism classes.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
 Christian Center Mission
 East 2nd and Ehrgood
 10 a. m., Sunday school.
 11 a. m., morning worship.
 7:30 p. m., evangelistic service.

ADRIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
 Henry E. Moore, Pastor
 10 a. m., Bible school.
 11 a. m., morning worship.
 11 a. m., junior church.

FIRST Church of Christ CHRISTIAN
 Austin J. Hollingsworth, Minister
 10 a. m., church school. Elvin Ballou, superintendent.
 11 a. m., morning worship, directed by minister.
 7 p. m., Christian Youth Fellowship.
 8 p. m., night devotions with two study groups.

The Pacific Ocean was so named by Magellan because it is quiet and peaceful.

Minister Seeks "Be Kind to Clergymen Week"

As guest speaker for the Nyssa Lions club at its Monday noon meeting, the Rev. Claire T. Crenshaw, pastor, St. Paul's Episcopal church, made a spirited plea "In Defense of Clergymen."

The speaker neatly turned his subject on a humorous pivot by urging the setting of a "Be Kind to Clergymen Week." This, he pointed out, should be done in the interests of a better understanding of clergymen as a professional group.

"Many misunderstandings about the clergy as a class rest," he said, "on the false assumptions of laymen. On the other hand," he added, "laymen are, in the sight of the clergy, little worse than they appear to be."

After all, the speaker reminded his audience, the clergyman is "a man who has attended the average school, is an average man himself with the average desires and ambitions" but is a man set apart from his fellows by "having the finger of God put on him."

But, in spite of this, the Rev. Crenshaw concluded, the clergyman wants to be known "as an ordinary Joe."

F.H.A. ATTEND CHURCH

Future Homemakers of America of Nyssa high school attended church services at St. Paul's Episcopal church, in a group Sunday. They were accompanied by their advisor, Mrs. Charles Steffens.

Supreme Court justices engaging in private practice may be impeached.

Lutheran Church Sets Christian Ed. Class

A class in Christian education is now in progress at Faith Lutheran church, but there is room for others who wish to enter it, according to the Rev. John Briehl, pastor, who instructs the group.

Meeting time of the class is 8 p. m. Wednesday at the church.

"What Does the Bible Say?" is the theme of the class, which aims to show the plan of salvation as it runs throughout the Bible, and what that plan can mean to the individual. The Bible is the sole authority used, and the class meetings are informal and open to anyone.

Called to Ogden By Father's Death

Sunset Valley—James A. Etherington, father of Mrs. Delbert Garner and Mrs. George Polkman of Sunset Valley, died last Thursday morning at his Ogden home. Mr. Etherington, who had visited here many times, had been ill for some time.

Services were Saturday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Garner, Val and Leona; Mr. and Mrs. Polkman, Carol and Brent, and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Garner attending.

W.S.C. CHILI SUPPER NOV. 20

Women's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist church will sponsor a chili supper at the church Nov. 20 for the public between the hours of 5:30 and 8:30 p. m. Charges of 50 cents and 75 cents will be made for servings.

The original U. S. Supreme Court consisted of a chief and four associate justices.

Buena Vista

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Topliff were Saturday evening dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Duncan and Loretta of Jordan Valley and Mrs. Ethel Goodell of Vale spent Friday evening at the Leslie Topliff home.

Mrs. Lloyd Cleaver attended a mothers' tea in Nyssa Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Topliff and daughters were Sunday dinner guests at the Marvin Elmore home.

Mr. and Mrs. Fern Runcon entertained with three tables of pinocle Tuesday evening. Mrs. Adam Focht and Leonard Phillips won high score prizes, while Mrs. Adell Lundy and Robert Runcon won low. Refreshments were served.

Mrs. Lloyd Cleaver and Mrs. Jim Ritchie entertained at a birthday party Thursday for Linda Cleaver and Robert Ritchie for their eighth birthday anniversaries at the Cleaver home. Games were played and refreshments of birthday cake, ice cream and punch were served. The honored guests received many gifts.

Mrs. James Stephen, Jr., entertained the Oregon Trail home economic club at her home Thursday with a pet luck luncheon.

John and Angie Mesner of Greenleaf were dinner guests Sunday at the James Stephen, Sr., home.

Mr. and Mrs. George Cleaver attended the meeting of the Owyhee Riding club at the Snodgrass home in Nyssa Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Mancil Bishop were Sunday dinner guests at the Scott Haatt home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ulrich Neiger of Nyssa were Sunday evening visitors at the James Stephen, Sr., home.

Mr. and Mrs. William Orr and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Orr of Hermiston spent several days the past week at the Lester Cleaver home. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mitchell joined them Sunday for dinner at the Cleaver home.

Mr. and Mrs. LaVern Cleaver and Mr. and Mrs. Lester Cleaver attended a turkey dinner Saturday evening at the Jim Savage home in Nyssa.

Evie Cleaver has returned home after spending the past week at the Elmer Scott home in Payette.

Guy Farmer and George Basendorfer have returned from an elk hunting trip with one elk killed by Mr. Farmer.

Mrs. Eugene Cleaver, Mrs. Lester Cleaver and Mrs. Guy Farmer attended a mother's tea in Nyssa one day this week.

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