

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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Logic Is Good Medicine

There's too much hysteria about the county health department!

Having a cause and being faithful to it is an admirable trait, but when defeat of that cause is brought about largely by maintenance that it is so important that any means to an end is justified, the attitude can be labeled as nothing but hysteria.

We go right along with advocates of an expanded and better health department and are not a bit hesitant to state that it was ridiculous to make such drastic slashes as did the budget board for county health. Perhaps the \$23,800 asked for was too much, not in the sense of value received, but simply because the jump was too great from the current appropriation and the increase was contrary to advice of other local and state health officials.

One point was forgotten in spite of the fact that many of those advocating the 31 percent increase have lived in Malheur county for a long time. They have forgotten that this is a rural area and that its residents will go along with any and all progressive actions if they are sold on them. Too short a time was devoted to informing the public of the value and need of a better health department.

It would have been far better to have expanded the county health service gradually over a period of three or five years, than to have attempted the jump in five months.

For instance, why not hire a recognized public health nurse and pay her the salary asked for, but wait a year or two to add the staff nurse. The request for double the amount for the county health officer's salary, which heaven knows is very inadequate, might have been increased half that amount this year then more in years to come.

Those two items alone would have left the budget at \$19,560, which would have been a compromise and undoubtedly insufficient, but it might have had more widespread support and greater appeal to the powers that be. We won't buy statements that a better health department, would have prevented last year's polio epidemic nor can we go along with some of the unrealistic ideas of some of the duties of a public health nurse. Here's one, for instance, that this newspaper published as views of a special committee a few weeks ago: "Contacting new mothers and discussing the problems and care of new born infants and sending notices at the proper time to remind these mothers to have their children immunized. . . ."

Those two arguments alone alienated some support that might have been forthcoming.

No one will argue that some of the appropriations for some other county expenditures are preposterous, but it must be remembered that no one was at the budget meeting to argue against the extravagant appropriations, just like there were many absent from the meeting to argue for the health department.

We have stated before that a good selling job must be done. There are some good salesmen around the Nyssa area who have had a lot to do with better-than-average schools, a hospital built by and for the people of a wide area, a road district that is second to none in the northwest and a water system that would do credit to a town of 8000 people, just to name a few.

Some of these people who acted as salesmen for those various projects might have given some fatherly advice and help had they been asked and their advice followed.

We only hope that personalities can be left at home and the issue straightened out through logical means.

A little logic might be good medicine.

Others Say

\$800 for Bobcats But Not Enough for Public Health (Malheur Enterprise)

The county's budget board last week did not see fit to include an appropriation for a badly needed, additional public health nurse.

In fact, the board went farther than turning down the request for an increased budget for the health department, it cut the department's budget \$2,215 below the allotment for the current year.

This cut was made with the full sanction of the members of the county court and in spite of the fact that petitions and organization endorsements representing well over 600 persons had asked that an additional nurse be placed in the department in the coming year so that essential services could be extended in schools and communities.

The county auditor and members of the county court have explained that there are no funds to hire another nurse and to grant the appropriation requested by the health office.

We pointed out in these columns two weeks ago that whether or not there is sufficient money for a minimum program of public health within the county depends upon what things you put first.

The new budget reveals a great many things have been put ahead of public health.

There is apparently sufficient money to place another \$20,000 in the courthouse building fund, a completely arbitrary decision upon the part of the budget board, incidentally. There has never been a vote on this.

There are sufficient funds to grant increases in the new budgets for the majority of county offices, including the county court, the circuit court, the sheriff's office, the county clerk, the county assessor, the county treasurer, the county school superintendent and the county library.

The new budget shows that there is sufficient money to grant increases in the county school fund, the welfare budget, the Nyssa justice court and the courthouse maintenance funds.

There is also money enough to include for the first time funds for a full-time juvenile officer and to make a band new appropriation of \$1,100 to the Columbia River Projects commission, for whatever purposes we are not told. There is \$4000 to set aside for the destruction of predatory animals; \$8000 for county veterinarians.

There is enough, too, to budget \$5000 in an "emergency" fund although the county books show that the emergency fund has not been drawn upon for several years.

There is money available to budget a sizeable \$10,400 for a "miscellaneous" fund where in the past two fiscal years only \$5,000 has been so designated.

What do the taxpayers get for this \$10,400 "miscellaneous" money, we wonder? There is no breakdown.

Why is this fund so much larger than last year's appropriation for the same, obscure purchases?

The health office is asked to account for every penny of its \$16,000 budget, and must plead for every cent of it. But what do we buy with our "miscellaneous" public money, and why do we need so much more of it than in the past?

Our county administrators have been given the opportunity for a complete, detailed justification of the health office budget, and now we think it is time for them to do some justifying of their own.

Are we to accept without ques-

Stranger In The County

By Bill Campbell

Never have been in a community where there's been so much yak-yak about bridge. Couldn't understand it until a couple of reports came in last week.

One, and there were others, read like this: "Mrs. Dick Tensen was high at the party."

WELL, NOW, GALS, THAT'S DIFFERENT!

A sweet high school senior came back from commencement practice kinda teary because they were playing "Pomp and Circumstance" and the gals all got SO sentimental.

Imagine they would have preferred "Heartbreak Hotel."

Mrs. Gene Grasty was kind enough to call in the other day after reading about Bill Church's flowers and recommended that I look at the garden, a real show-place, belonging to Mrs. Brig Olsen. Thanks for the tip. Heard about the multi-color iris, including a new variety, a black iris.

Some of you gardeners might like to see them, too. Take a trip one mile west of highway on Columbia, then go a mile north on Clark and turn a half mile west on Eureka and there you are—I hope.

NOW I KNOW WHY THE INDIANS LOST THE COUNTRY! YOU SHOULD SEE SOME OF THE PICTURES OF "INDIANS" I'VE BEEN TAKING EVERY NOON AT BROWNIE'S DURING THE CURRENT HOSPITAL DRIVE.

Harold Brendle won't say so in so many words but he's a wee bit concerned about that "free day" offer at Peterson Furniture.

Seems he's had a dandy month and a lot of people are going to be watching for that lucky date. Which, of course is the whole idea and Harold, I'm sure, will smile if it kills him when he starts refunding purchase price.

Personally, I think it's a dandy idea—and so, really, does Harold.

'Tis our hope to have a special Spanish column each week in the paper. It's a cinch no one around here could edit it, so we might come up with a dilly.

NICE TO HAVE KNOWN YOU.

When I get all hot and bothered from the heat I just look out the window and gaze at the Christmas tree lights.

That always makes me cool.

Hope a lot of you folks drop in to the open house at O. K. Rubber Welders Friday and Saturday. Roy Wild, the boss, while getting all set for the event fell off a ladder and broke his right wrist and right foot. Kinda tough on Roy, but he and Georgia will be on hand with door prizes, favors for kids, etc.

I'm going to be there and golly, I hope you folks who know Roy will make a special effort to also show up.

Some guys you just can't lick. Incidentally, better hike or ride

tion the total county budget of \$670,286.85 while airing in public meetings—as we have heard recently—the rashness of the health department's request for \$400 for telephone calls?

The law guarantees a time and a place to question the county budget. The date set is June 15 at 10 a.m., and the place is the courthouse at Vale.

If you would know the answers to such interesting questions as why we can afford \$800 for bobcat bounties but not enough to prevent polio epidemics, to search out children with defective vision and hearing, wipe out tuberculosis and to bring our public health program out of the horse and buggy age, resolve now to attend this meeting.

You may not be welcomed, but you can't be thrown out.



"QUITE AN APPROACH YOU HAVE TO THE SNAKE RIVER BRIDGE!"

Better fill'er up with Chevron Supreme! I don't want to stall on that bridge either.

AND OUR OIL IS THE FINEST, TOO.

POWELL SERVICE STATION
2nd & Main Nyssa

Owyhee Community Church News

Thought of the week:
Our words may hide our thoughts, but our actions will reveal them.

Following church service Sunday morning there will be a picnic at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Robb in honor of Earl Wilson who will be leaving for Moses Lake. Those attending S. S. and church are invited to come, and to bring their own service for the picnic.

Eleven couples enjoyed the weiner-hamburger fry at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Perko Friday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Robb were in charge of the meeting.

Dates for daily vacation Bible School are June 18-29, with classes for all children 4 years and up through the hi-school grades.

Beginning Thursday evening, at 7 o'clock, youth activity night will begin and will continue for the summer months at the church. All young people are urged to come as baseball team and volley ball teams will be organized and other church groups will be played.

out and see Fischer Locker Service's new set-up. You might walk away with enough beef to last your family a long time. They are also having an open house to display their new services and packaging. A real deal for those with home freezers.

Darn near got gassed Saturday afternoon. Grabbed my camera when they had the fire over Wilson's Department Store and dashed up the stairs to get pictures. One of which MAY run in this issue. It was so smoke-filled that the only way I could find my direction was by listening to the warm remarks of the Nyssa firemen.

They thought the place was blowing up when I started to use my flash, simply by pointing the camera in the general direction and hoping for the best. In fact they were downright upset.

Until, that is, the fire cooled, they cooled, and it was found that a couple of shots (pictures to you) came out.

Besides, I was the only darn fool groping around without a mask.

Incidentally, Wilson Brothers is running full blast though they were subject to a little temporary dunking. No serious damage.

Why not dunk your money in Nyssa stores? Prices are comparable and think of the nice guys you can meet!

Bye now and buy Nyssa. (I sell ads.)

USE THE CLASSIFIED ADS.

Episcopal Church News

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:
Holy, Holy, Holy! merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity."

Sunday, May 27, Trinity Sunday, the beginning of the Trinity season of the Christian year. Lessons for the day are from the book Isaiah, Chapter 6, verses 1 to 8 and from the First Letter of Peter, Chapter 1, verses 1 to 12. This service will be held by the layreaders.

Each summer the missionary district of Eastern Oregon of the Protestant Episcopal Church maintains a summer school at Cove, Oregon for all young people

in the fourth grade and over. Due to the increased enrollment in the past years it has been decided to divide the summer school into four classes as follows:

Beginners School (Grades 4 and 5) July 10 to 17th.
Junior School (Grades 6 and 7) June 26th to July 6th.
Intermediate School (Grades 8 and 9) June 12th to 22nd.
Senior School Grades 10, 11, 12 and Grads) Aug. 20th to 30th.

Any parents who are interested in having their child or children attend this summer school should contact Grant or Betty Rinehart in the very near future for registration forms.

A reminder that a real effort is going to get underway again to finish the church building. The evenings of Tuesday, Thursday and Friday have been designated as work evenings. It will be possible to put everyone who is still breathing to work.

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"Sure she feels good
...we've got
money
in the
bank!"



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