

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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**Stranger
In The County**

By Bill Campbell

There are very few in the Nyssa area who can push the manager of Amalgamated Sugar around—BUT I DID! Jed Lewis had a little ignition trouble Monday noon and I bounced him to the nearest garage. In spite of the repeated bumper smashes enroute I knew one thing for certain:

Jed wouldn't raise cane. There's one lawsuit I won't have to worry about. Met Judge Biggs the other day and the subject of libel came up. He assured me that a man can't get into a jam for what he THINKS . . . so let Wayne do his darndest!

Here's one for the political book: Boss Duane has been sporting a button in Morse code spelling the word I K E. He made the mistake of going over to the UP office where Tom Jones spotted the button and laughed and laughed as did several other railroad men. Seems Duane was just a crazy mixed up Republican. He had th button on upside down and all this time had been plugging E K I! Score one for Tom!

Dennis Savage got bashed on the head a week or so ago and is out of football for the rest of the season. Not too serious, however, as proved when he showed up at the house Sunday with a pheasant he had killed. It was a beauty and tasted as good as it looked.

Don Smith, who accidentally spends about as much time in the Snake river as the fish who live there, did it again.

Sunday after marooning some pheasant hunters on a small island he bowed low from the safety of his small outboard. His hat departed and Don, forgetting that there's more than one way to go on a tilt toppled in after the headgear. The boat obligingly made a complete circle and Don grabbed the brass ring the first time around and climbed into the craft which conked out. He drifted about four miles before realizing that oars might come in handy and finally made it to shore, wet, wan and wobbly.

The third time's a charm. Don. Don't press your luck!

Gee, I almost pulled a boo-boo! I try to line up my "men about Nyssa" a couple of weeks in advance and had George Cleaver, among others on the list. I mentioned the fact to Duane who

began to shake as though he had suddenly contracted malaria. "Bill," he gasped, "don't you realize that Cleaver is running for county commissioner?" "NO," I retorted, the political implication blanching my usually pallid face still further. For I realized I would have had to run every candidate for office prior to election or suffer the tortures of those who give-a-damn. So George if about will be the man-about soon. And usually I keep that a guarded secret!

Saw a B Mike squal in the in the Journal that tickled me. He pleaded that Morse have just ONE program entitled

"The one time I was almost wrong". Attention, gals! I've forgotten the exact wording, but I recall Shakespeare saying something like this: To thine own self be true and it follows as day follows night that thou can not be FALSE to any other!

What a shock! Friday night Nick Rudelick became ill and had to head for home. By Saturday night the grapevine had Nick, 1—suffering from a stroke. 2—a heart attack victim. 3—crossing a bar other than his. The truth is Nick was just a trottin' around and is now back on the job.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hansen returned Saturday from a vacation trip to Idaho and Utah where they visited Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Larson and other relatives and friends in Preston and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Hollingsworth and family in Brigham City, Utah.

Weekend visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dayle Moss and Pat were Mr. and Mrs. Mainard Pease of Salt Lake City.

Well, friends, Tuesday's coming. We can do two things that day. Vote and leave the chips on our shoulders at the ballot box. Buy Nyssa and buy America. Bill.

Mrs. Don Graham returned home Friday from Vancouver, B. C. where she was called by the illness of her brother-in-law, Alexander Brodiegray. Mrs. John Nain, who had flown home was also there visiting her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Cochran attended the funeral services of Harold McClure Saturday in Caldwell. Mr. McClure's brothers, Lester and Ernie McClure were former operators of a bakery here.

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Drydale and family last week were Mrs. Eldon Bassett and children and Russell Bassett of Salem.

Less Taxes, More Spending Impossible

"How can you reduce taxes, prevent new taxes and spend more money" is a question yet unanswered by State Sen. Robert Holmes, Democratic candidate for governor.

Sen. Holmes is undoubtedly among the better candidates from either party to seek the Oregon governorship, his campaign is comparatively free of mud-slinging and his reputation as a business man and a person of integrity is beyond reproach.

His manner, too, is good and Oregonians could be proud of the man should he become governor and deliver only a small part of his campaign promises.

However, Sen. Holmes in his Nyssa speech last Thursday left the impression, whether intentional or not, that taxes can be reduced and spending can be increased.

He opposes a sales tax, which The Journal opposes. He is not in favor of ballot measure No. 1, which The Journal opposed since it was introduced in the 1955 legislature. He wants to repeal the 45 percent surtax, which The Journal believes is a necessary evil.

Here we come to the question of where will the state find revenue to increase the basic school fund from 28 percent to 50 percent, even over a period of several years, to construct new building for state institutions and to raise funds, if only in part, for all the demands from various state agencies.

Even if everyone were agreed that "we should get more from the corporations," it must be taken into consideration there are not enough of them in Oregon to pay all the taxes now demanded plus the additional money wanted.

Gov. Elmo Smith is somewhat more realistic in his efforts to acknowledge that demands for spending and revenue must be balanced. He has stated he will veto any sales tax measure that is not a referendum to the voters.

We disagree with Gov. Smith's expressed approval of ballot measure No. 1, which would allow the state to collect taxes by attaching an emergency clause on tax bills, even though initiative petitions were filed by the people. It should be remembered, however, that ballot measure No. 1 refers only to initiative measures and the legislature could not refer a tax bill and at the same time declare it an emergency.

The governor has not promised to increase the basic school support fund beyond what he terms, "The largest amount consistent with the state's financial condition."

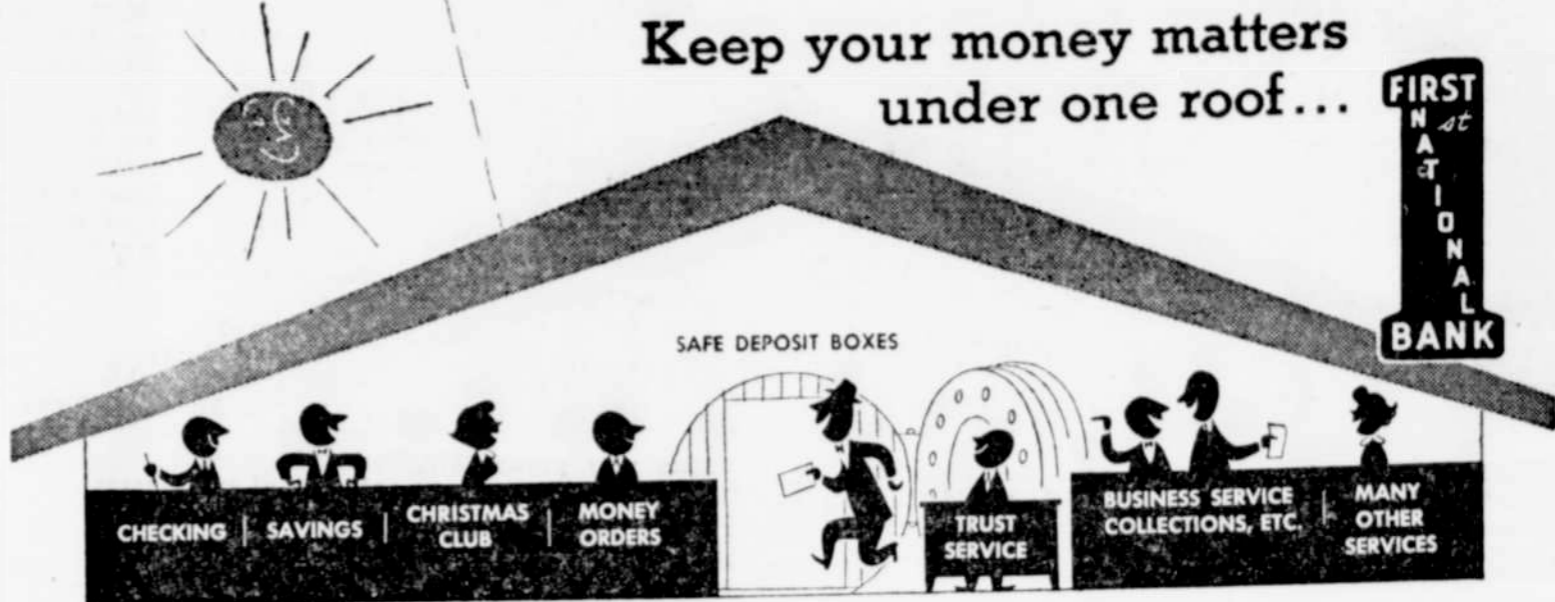
Here, we believe, the realism comes in. Local property taxes are high, but mostly because of bond issues approved by the voters.

The Nyssa school district superintendent, recognized as one of the better administrators in the state on school tax matters and an advocate of more state funds, has acknowledged that the full 50 percent wanted from the state would lower local taxes no more than 6 or 8 mills. He also concedes that the local levy probably would be back to its present high level within a short time, even with more state funds.

Rest assured that taxes will have to be paid in one

form or another and the collector will reach into the pockets of the low and high income groups, whether they are wage earners, home or farm owners, small business or corporations.

The history of taxation has been far more consistent than the public and their elected officials who pass tax measures. A new tax seldom replaces any existing tax and very few public bodies have ever been known to spend less than the amounts they budget.



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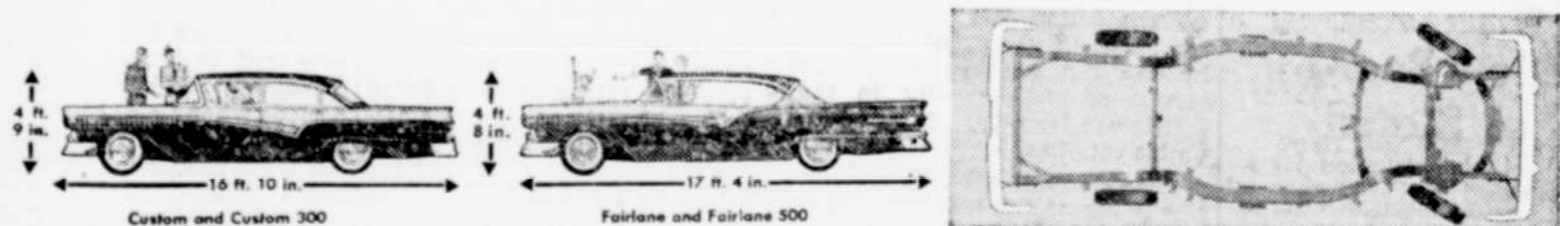
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