

Nyssa Gate City Journal

FIRST
SECTION

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Prosecution Finishes Its Phase Of Onion Case, Defense Begins

Three Nyssa defendants in the federal trial involving alleged theft, interstate transportation and disposal of onions from Payette and Fruitland began presentation of the case for the defense this week before U.S. District court in Boise.

U.S. Judge Chase A. Clark Tuesday afternoon denied motions for acquittal for the three Nyssa men—Sherman Bybee, Herbert Fischer and Edward J. Brown.

Monday afternoon Judge Clark granted one motion for acquittal—that of Beulah Baker, former Payette bank teller, and denied a motion of acquittal for Raleigh Walker, Weiser.

U.S. Attorney Sherman Furey completed presentation of the federal case against the five defendants Monday afternoon shortly after 2 p.m. Then Judge Clark excused the jury so the defense attorneys—seven in all—could make their motions.

They moved for acquittal for all five defendants. The judge granted a judgement of acquittal immediately for Beulah Baker, noting that he could find "not a scintilla of evidence" to implicate her in the onion theft conspiracy.

At the same time, he denied the acquittal motion for Raleigh Walker. The defense motions in all cases held that the government's case had not presented concrete evidence to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The federal trial involving two counts—one for the theft, concealment and transportation of the onions across the Idaho-Oregon state line accuses Sherman Bybee, Herbert Fischer and Raleigh Walker; and the second count includes these three men, plus Edward J. Brown and Beulah Baker, the acquitted defendant, on a conspiracy charge involving the theft, transportation and selling of the onions.

The trial opened Monday of last week in Boise. The first week was taken up with selection of 12 jurors and two alternates and appearance of more than a dozen witnesses for the prosecution.

Although the trial has been eagerly followed by residents of the Payette and Nyssa areas, only about 18 spectators were in court Feb. 18.

They heard the final two government witnesses—Dwight K. Wells, court reporter for the Federal Grand Jury that last September returned the two indictments, and Roy K. McFales, special investigator for the FBI, who conducted an investigation into the case.

U.S. Attorney Furey had Wells, who recorded the Grand Jury testimony, read several questions and answers made by E. J. Brown when he appeared before the jury on Sept. 10, 1956. Vernon K. Smith, defense attorney for Brown, objected to use of the Grand Jury testimony in the trial.

Furey was allowed to proceed, after Judge Chase said he would make a decision on each question and answer in the testimony before Wells read it from the witness stand.

Brown had admitted, according to the testimony read by Wells, signing and cashing seven checks made out to three different names.

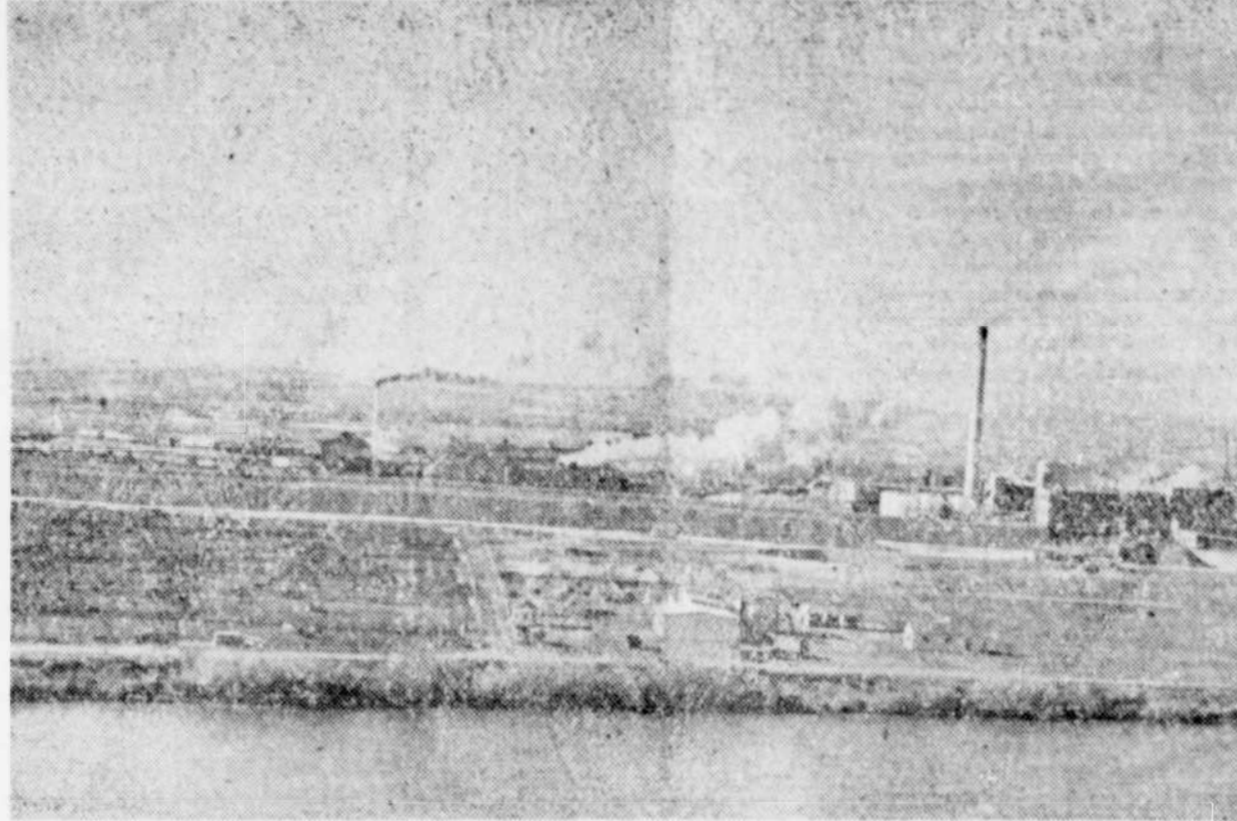
When Attorney Vernon K. Smith moved for a judgement of acquittal for Brown after Wells and the FBI agent had appeared for the prosecution, he said his client admitted signing and cashing the checks, but that the evidence presented did not implicate Brown in the onion theft.

To this the judge told Smith that without the money from sale of the onions they weren't worth much.

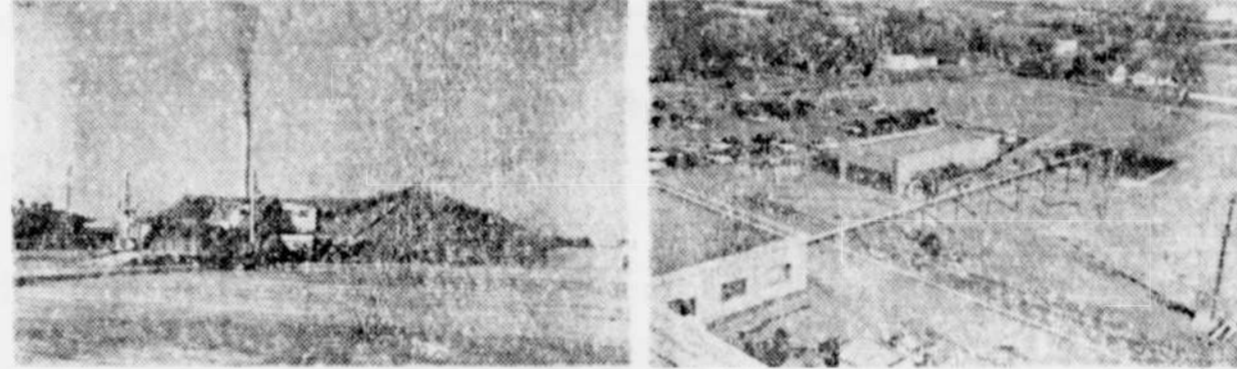
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Nyssa Sugar Factory Completes Record Year, Slices More Than 550,000 Tons of Beets

Here's the Sugar Factory That Set the Record



There Were Mountains of Beets . . . And Then There Were None



Growers Harvest Record Yield Of More Than 24 Tons Per Acre

The Nyssa factory of the Amalgamated Sugar Company established two new all-time production records when it wound up its 1956-57 beet slicing operations yesterday, Manager Jed Lewis reported.

The factory processed the largest tonnage of beets ever to go through the giant Nyssa factory in one season—more than 550,000 tons—and will produce more than 150 million pounds of its famed White Satin sugar.

Credit for the new production records, Lewis pointed out, goes not only to the sugar factory and

The sugar factory whistle sounded at 4 minutes before 7 Wednesday morning when the last beet entered the plant for processing into sugar. Many Nyssa residents reported hearing the early morning whistle blast.

its crews, but also to the farmers of this area for their record high yield of beets per acre.

The Nyssa factory was in operation for 141 days and sliced in excess of 4,000 tons per day of the record beet harvest in the valley from 43,200 acres, Lewis said.

Exchange Student Tells Experience In Visiting Iran

Thomas Zinn, Jr., International Farm Youth delegate, told Nyssa chamber of commerce members of his experiences in Iran and other Middle East countries at Wednesday's noon meeting.

Illustrating his talk with colored slides, Zinn explained that Iran is one-third the size of the United States, possesses good soils and an abundance of irrigation water.

The Iranian people are very friendly to the United States, he said, and grateful for the American technical help that has raised their standard of living.

Zinn said his group had just left the Suez canal when Britain and France attacked Egypt last November.

He said the Iranians do not like Communism because back in 1953 the Communists took over a portion of the country in the north and executed hundreds in enforcing its control.

He said that the only desert he saw in Iran was a small area in the south. In contrast, he said, most other Middle East countries have large areas of wasteland and little water for irrigation.

Wayne Garner, Izaak Walton League president, reported on the progress of the Owyhee road and subscription of \$5,000 by the county court to help complete the road from the dam to Gordon gulch.

Phillips Oil Bid Accepted By City

The City of Nyssa this week accepted the Phillips Petroleum Co. bid to supply the city with its gasoline and other petroleum products for the current year.

The city said the Phillips bid was lower by a small margin over eight other bids submitted. The city will pay 23.34 cents per gallon of regular grade gasoline, a price including the state tax but not the federal levy. Cities are exempt from the federal gasoline tax.

The city will install during March a 1,000 gallon storage tank and gasoline pump at the warehouse yard, Second and Reece streets. Previously the city has purchased gasoline at retail, lacking bulk storage facilities.

Men About Nyssa



Wilton Jackson

Nyssa's chamber of commerce president was born in Temple, Texas, September 12, 1920.

The Jacksons moved to Waco until Wilton was 11 years old and after two years moved to Lubbock where Wilton's family was in the school furniture and supply business.

He was graduated from high school in 1937, having played football, if not sensational, with the varsity. He was also a member of the debate team. (That figures).

While attending high school Wilton spent his summers driving a truck. He was busy delivering furniture through Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas. He also did some selling on the road between his junior and senior year at high school.

Our president then attended Texas Military Academy, where, in his freshman year, he was a member of the football team, boxing team and class president.

The family bought a furniture factory in Oklahoma moving the factory to Greenville, Miss., the following year. Wilton stayed out of school to assist in this operation.

After he got the factory transplanted Wilton attended Mississippi State where he majored in business administration. This was in 1939.

Came the depression and it caught up with Wilton who moved back to Lubbock where he got a job in a service station—at \$1 per day.

Not content with the wages, Wilton took off for the Kansas oilfields where he worked about a year, enlisting in 1942 in the air corps reserve. He was deferred for six months but "got the call" in the fall of '42.

(Continued on Page 8)

Chamber Banquet Tickets On Sale

Tickets went on sale this week for the Nyssa chamber of commerce annual dinner Feb. 28, R. V. Wilson announced Wednesday.

Tickets may be obtained from Wilson, Elmer Cruson, Ken Renstrom and Bernard Eastman. The annual dinner meeting will be held in Oregon Trail hall Feb. 28.

First National Head Opposes Saturday Closing

Compulsory Saturday closing bank legislation which was introduced in the state senate Monday was described as not in the public interest by C. B. Stephenson, president of the First National bank of Portland, in a letter delivered Tuesday to lawmakers now in session at Salem.

Independent studies of banking needs in Oregon reveal Saturday is one of the two most popular banking days throughout the state, and that an important proportion of bank customers would be seriously inconvenienced if actually denied bank services if the Saturday closing measure became law, the banker disclosed.

Reaffirming a stand taken early in November when the Saturday closing plan was first revealed, Stephenson said that the average wage earner, divorced by his employment conditions from week-day banking, is the largest recipient of the benefits of Saturday banking.

"While we agree that legislation can force Oregonians to bank Monday through Friday," Stephenson pointed out, "it is not true that a law can force all of those now using Saturday into a projected pattern. For this reason and because the legislation would single out for regulation one particular type of business institution, we feel that the proposed law is discriminatory."

Alas Webfoots!

Those Flooded Intersections Soon Water Down The Drain

A remedy for some of those chronically flooded street intersections in Nyssa's business district came into view this week.

The State Highway Dept. has given verbal approval for the city to connect certain intersections to the storm sewer installed by the state on Main street.

Tentative plans call for first connections to be made for draining into the storm sewer the intersections of Second and Bower, Sixth and Good and Fourth and Good.

The city explained that drainage has been a problem for many years, since sumps at these inter-

Dust Brings Main Street Sweeping To A Halt

Street sweeping in Nyssa's business district will be delayed until warmer weather permits early morning operation, the City of Nyssa announced this week.

An attempt to sweep Main street Tuesday afternoon raised too much dust, the city reported in announcing plans to stop the sweeping for the present.

Because of the frozen condition of the street dirt, it is not possible to operate the sweeper at night or early in the morning, when dust would not interfere with business operations.

The city also announced it will purchase salt to remove the snow from streets, to determine if the method will be less costly than hauling it off by loaders and trucks.

March of Dimes Passes \$2600

The March of Dimes total for Nyssa and its surrounding area soared over the \$2600 mark this week, Chairman Bob Wilson announced.

Added since last week were the following: KSRV auction \$85, Oregon Trail Grange \$15, Nyssa elementary school \$20.66, Adrian FFA \$42.62, Adrian high school \$17.20, Ridgeview school \$7.74, Adrian elementary school \$58.28, Adrian Mothers' March \$26.86, and Methodist Church Women's society \$5.48.

Meeting Postponed By Adrian PTA

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House and Earl Harmon, engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation, estimated cost of the road construction at \$10,000 to \$14,000. (Continued on page 8)

R. V. Wilson Talks At Lions Club

Nyssa Lions heard about a bill before the Oregon legislature authorizing reorganization of school districts when they met Monday noon.

R. V. Wilson, Nyssa superintendent of schools, explained how the bill, if passed, would reduce the number of school districts in the state.

Owyhee Road Project Forges Ahead

The public campaign to build a road on Owyhee dam to Gordon gulch took a long step forward this week when the county court pledged \$5,000 to help finance the project.

Wayne Garner, Izaak Walton League president, announced it will immediately launch a public campaign to raise \$10,000, which with the county's \$5,000 will finance the road construction.

"This project will make fishing and boating at Owyhee lake available to all county residents," Garner said, "and will need the support of every one in the county."

Members of the county court Monday evening joined the Izaak Walton League's regular meeting at Ontario to confer on the road project, spearheaded by the

Wilson Jackson, Nyssa chamber of commerce president, announced the appointment of Elmer Cruson to head the chamber's drive in Nyssa for the Owyhee dam road funds. The goal is \$3,000, Jackson said. Donations may be turned in to Cruson or to Ken Renstrom, Izaak Walton league secretary.

Ontario residents and business-people have already given almost \$3,000 for the drive, League officers reported.

Officers elected at the last week meeting of the Adrian FHA were Bernice Jorgenson, president; Linda Costly, vice president; Claudia Peterson, secretary; Norene Howes, treasurer; Claudette Day, parliamentarian; Shirley Skinner, point keeper; Kay McDonald, historian; Lavina Shy, recorder, and Bonnie Lowtrip, reporter.

Adrian FHA Elects New Officers

A candy sale was held last week to earn money for UNESCO, a state FHA project. The sale netted \$1.75.

Climaxes Campaign

The county's support for the recreation road designed to serve residents of this area and summer tourists, climaxes a public campaign of many years.

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Polio Vaccine Clinic Slated In Nyssa Feb. 23

Salk polio vaccine will be given to residents of the Nyssa area at a clinic sponsored by the Malheur Department of Public Health this Saturday, Feb. 23 at the Nyssa high school Little Theatre, 1:30 p.m.

In announcing the clinic, the county health department said that the shots would be given free of charge to those not able to afford them. All persons between the ages of 1 to 19 and pregnant women are eligible.

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On March 2 a second clinic will be held at Ontario for the Ontario, Annex and Jefferson districts. A third will be held March 9 in Vale for the Juntura, Harper, Grove, Ironside, Jamieson, Brogan, Willowcreek and Seventh Day Adventist church school.

The county health department cited results of the Nyssa polio vaccine and last week urged all resident to obtain the three polio vaccine shots, either from family physicians or from the clinics if the cost is beyond a family's means.

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Nyssa Heart Fund Drive To Begin This Weekend Throughout City

Nyssa's Heart Sunday drive will get underway this weekend with volunteers from numerous women's organizations making a complete canvass of the town, Dr. K. A. Danford, chairman, announced this week.

Participating will be the ladies of the Eagles, north side of town; Methodist Ladies aid, highway and hospital area; Lutheran Ladies Missionary society, south side; Mrs. Leon Roberts, east end; and American Legion Auxiliary, business district.

Dr. Danford announced that a Heart Fund Memorial for Wilford A. Bybee has been donated by

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The Nyssa factory employed approximately 350 men during the processing period and employs about 125 when not making sugar, Lewis said. The annual payroll approximates \$1,125,000.

Lewis explained that men laid off now that operations are complete are for the most part farmers of this area who will start their spring farming preparations and not swell unemployment rolls.

Nampa Sets Record
Amalgamated's Nampa sugar factory finished beet slicing last Sunday, Feb. 17, after having processed more than 500,000 tons, largest volume in the history of the plant.

Nampa's sugar production totaled more than 135 million pounds, Lewis reported.

"In spite of the fact that we had the wettest October in the history of the valley," Lewis said, "growers harvested the highest yield of sugar beets ever attained here, and possibly the highest anywhere."

Yield of 24 Tons
From their 43,200 acres planted to beets, farmers harvested an average yield of 24.61 tons per acre. Malheur county in Oregon and Canyon and Washington counties in Idaho set all-time high production records of more than 25 tons per acre.

This compares with the 1955 national average beet production no doubt sustain Malheur county county holds the previous national record for high beet yield at slightly more than 22 tons per acre. This year's record crop will no doubt sustain Malheur county as the top sugar beet area of the U. S.

Good Farming Practices
"This high tonnage," Lewis said, "is a result, in my judgement, of more than an abundance of good deep soil, water and sunshine. In addition to these natural blessings we have some of the most progressive, modern farmers in the nation."

"Their farming practices embrace the wise use of fertilizer, skilled farming methods, fine equipment and know-how," he pointed out.

The well-managed farms of the valley that set the new record yield, he said, are the result of modern farming methods taking advantage of crop rotation and other conservation methods. Farmers' production records stand as evidence of their skill.

PTA Promises Evening of Fun At Circus Friday

If you want to see Nyssa Teachers tangle in a basketball game with the "Local Hotshots," both teams wearing boxing gloves, you'd better be at the PTA circus this Friday night at 8 o'clock in the high school gym.

That's the word from Chairman John Briel, who promises in addition an evening of entertaining acts to please both parents, teachers and students.

Ringmaster Wilton Jackson will present local talent including a sham battle, tumbling acts, a rhythm group, Claude Wilson and his Devastating Dolls, Herb Sanders in clown act, and vocal solos by Charles Jones.

Funds raised will be used to further local PTA projects. Admission will be 50 cents for adults, and 25 cents for school children. Parents can bring their pre-schoolers in free.

Is Your Dog A Delinquent?

THE CITY OF NYSSA is going to the dogs—for their annual license fees that is—the city administration announced this week.

The dog license are now on hand and should be purchased before March 1, the city said. As usual, it's the females who pay the most: fees are \$3 for females and \$2 for males and spays.

After the March 1 deadline the police will pickup and impound unlicensed dogs for five days. They will be destroyed thereafter if not redeemed by owners.

Dog owners must pay the impounding fee, feed costs and the regular license fee on removing their pets from the pound. Licenses run for the calendar year.