

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

DUANE R. ALTERS - - - - - Editor and Publisher
Duane R. Alters and Rita K. Whorton, Owners



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To escape comment or criticism, do nothing, be nothing,
say nothing.

Inconsistent News Handouts

Centralization of authority is the result of man's laziness and for the past decade it has been creeping into private business, including the American press, almost as rapidly as it has wriggled into governmental affairs. Most newspapers have been complaining at irregular intervals for several years about centralization of government, yet most of us have allowed news sources to follow the same trend.

We have allowed ourselves to become reconciled to the news releases or handout system adopted by most agencies directly or indirectly connected with the federal government.

Most of these news releases from local, established governmental agencies are good and cover many subjects of interest to the general public, but they are distributed inconsistently. The county agent's office is usually considered about news of the community, but identical copies usually go to three newspapers, a radio station and occasionally to out-of-state dailies. Because of this system we news reporters take it for granted that a release will come through the mail and we sometimes are left holding the sack when the county agent, his secretary and we go to sleep at the same time.

Last week The Journal was scooped because it was expecting a release from the county agent about the cattlemen's association meeting in Vale. Because of our dependent attitude, we failed to check and the news failed to arrive. The same thing happened with an ASC announcement. Usually the ASC is eager for publicity, but when a real news report came up, we failed to get the usual franked envelope.

Perhaps neither of these agencies sent out the releases we refer to, but if they didn't therein lies their inconsistency and our own dereliction of duty.

The Great Change in newspaper reporting policy was taking place when the writer first breathed printers' ink, so we can recall the old-time editors and reporters, even on weeklies, who fought hell and high water to scoop some contemporary, probably a close personal friend.

Insofar as federal and most state agencies are concerned, such practice is now taboo for "public relations sake," but they should inform each news dispenser that their policy is either catch-as-catch-can or complete silence until the director in charge has taken enough bicarbonate of soda to dictate the news of the week and instructed his stenographer to make a specified number of copies.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell A. Smith spent the week end in Portland visiting Mr. Smith's step-father, William Davis who has been ill. They also visited other relatives before returning to Nyssa by train Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Olson were hosts over the week end to Bob McLain of San Francisco, Calif. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Roberts were Sunday dinner guests of their son, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Roberts and family.

METHODIST Church News

"He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
—II Cor. 9:6 and 7

Sunday, Dec. 1, 9:45 a.m. — Church school with classes for everyone.

11 a.m. — Worship service. Mr. Ludlow's sermon topic will be "The Modern Samaritan." Baptismal services.

7 p.m. — MYF and MIF meetings.

Monday, Dec. 2, 8 p.m. — Meeting of all commissions and the official board.

Wednesday, Dec. 4 — Fun festival, bazaar and dinner. Bazaar opens at 10 a.m. in the church basement. Dinner will be served from 5 to 8 p.m. This is a building fund project. Let's all try to make it a real success.

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 8 p.m. — Bible study and prayer meeting in church parlor.

Christian Church Notes

"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the Word of our God shall stand for ever." Isaiah, 40:8.

Sermon topics for Sunday, Dec. 1, "Faith Is" and "Revelations 16." 6:00 p.m. orchestra practice.

7:00 p.m. JYF, Chi Rho and CYF meetings.

Wednesday 8 p.m. choir practice.

Friday the CYF will have a skating party at Ontario. Cars will leave the church at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 1, at 9 p.m. the junior high and high school young people will meet at the Christian church for a sing-along. This includes the young people of all the churches.

Adrian Community Church News

The Bible study and prayer group of the Mary and Martha Missionary society met at the home of Mrs. Edna Cowling Wednesday afternoon. A 1 o'clock pot luck dinner was served to the 10 women present. Rev. Moore was a dinner guest of the group.

Some hand work was done on various articles to be sold at the bazaar Dec. 11. The Bible study of the 11th chapter of Hebrews was led by Mrs. Lynn Hurst.

The first meeting of a church training program for officials of the church was held Sunday night at the parsonage under the leadership of Rev. Moore. The topic for discussion was "The Church—What It Is, What It Does".

On Sunday, Dec. 22, there will be a canned food shower for the benefit of the Ontario Presbyterian Nursing home. The donations may be canned fruit and vegetables, jellies, jams or juices. The canned vegetables must be in tin can containers.

On Dec. 8, during a part of the

Methodists Tell Of Fun Festival And Turkey Feed

A grand time is planned for next Wednesday, Dec. 4 at the Methodist church for all those who will be attending the dinner and fun festival. Activities will begin at 10 a.m. and continue through the day with entertainment for every member of the family. All proceeds will go toward completion of the new unit.

Taxi service from Main street to the church will be running all day for those who wish a ride, or working people who want to join in for a few minutes of their spare time. This service may be obtained by calling the church office 2245.

The bazaar will consist of hand made articles such as pillowcases, dresser scarves, pillows, hand-braided rugs, aprons, towels, winter bouquets, holly and Christmas greens, novelties of all kinds, including tree decorations, child toys, pot holders, etc.

A request for treasures was made this week to go on exhibit along with a stamp size Bible, 200-year-old cup and saucer, ancient household gadgets, 100 year old book of etiquette, a book on home medicine, early eye glasses, confederate money, old deeds and many other things too numerous to mention.

Available at the country store will be home made goodies from baked articles, to canned products.

Coffee and doughnuts will be served all during the forenoon and afternoon.

A dinner will be served between the hours of five and nine, in the church basement. Public is invited to attend.

church school hour, the film strip "Reason For Being" will be shown.

The Christmas cantata, The Everlasting Light, written by Dorothy Sumerau and Roger Wilson, will be presented Sunday night, Dec. 22.

The regular Monday afternoon grade school Bible study classes meet each Monday afternoon at the church at 2:45 p.m. The classes are dismissed in time for the children to catch the school buses for home. All children are welcome to attend these classes.

Charles Shomburg of Nampa visited for a few days last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Olsen.

Owyhee Community Church Notes

O' Bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise be heard: Psalms 66:8.

A Thanksgiving dinner was held Friday night by the young people and their parents at the church.

The program consisted of America a vocal number sung by Leila Farmer and Billy Nielsen, a duet by Della and Dee Lowtrip, a reading by Jim Farmer, piano solo by Cherie Okano, a song by the women's choir, a group song by the young peoples choir and a duet by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Smithwick.

Guest speaker for the evening was Harold Day of Boise.

The youth rally for this month will be Friday evening at Willowcreek. Young people are invited to attend.

Sudden Death Takes Local Business Man

G. R. (Dick) Oldham, 70, died suddenly at home Nov. 23. Mr. Oldham had resided the past 7 years in Nyssa where he was operator of Oldhams Trailer court and rooming house, on the corner of Park Ave. and First street. He had been a member of the Seventh Day Adventist church in Parma for the past seven years.

He is survived by his wife, Cathryn of Nyssa, two daughters, Mrs. Helen Wesson of Marysville, Wash., and Mrs. Dorothy Owens of Stephenson, Wash.; two sons, the Rev. Kenneth Oldham of Metaline Falls, Wash., and Lester Oldham of Portland; 12 grand children; five great grand children; two brothers, Dr. Ed Oldham, Nyssa and Guy Oldham of Portland.

Services were conducted at the Nyssa Funeral home at 2 p.m. Wednesday with Elder Palmer of the Seventh Day Adventist church of Caldwell officiating.

OREGON TRAIL GRANGE HOLDS THURSDAY MEET

Oregon Trail Grange No. 687 held a regular meeting Nov. 21 at which opposition to farmers using county roads as a turning ground for operations was expressed. Members agreed such acts are hazardous to traffic besides being unlawful.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Rinehart of Baker were overnight guests Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Thurne.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnway Weeks and family of Seneca, Ore., spent the week end visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Plais Johnson, Bradley and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Weeks and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mace of Condon, Ore., are visiting this week in Nyssa with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Coleman and Mr. and Mrs. Mace and with other relatives.

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