

Nyssa Gate City Journal

FIRST SECTION

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Spring Mechanization to Reduce Sugar Beet Labor Requirements; Local Processing Nears End

Spring mechanization in the planting of sugar beets, reducing labor requirements by at least 40 or 50 percent, will be a reality in all sugar beet producing districts in the country within a few years.

This was the impression received by Henry Zobell, manager of the Nyssa district of Amalgamated Sugar company,

Hospital Board Names Officers, Gets Blood Bank

Election of new officers for the Malheur Memorial hospital board of directors and the acceptance of an offer made by the American Legion post 79 to supply a walking blood bank for the hospital were highlights of the board's meeting Tuesday night at the hospital.

D. Hubert Christensen was elected president of the board to succeed Bob Johnson of Parma who has headed the group for the past year. Other new officers named are Dick Forbess, vice president, and Charles Landreth, secretary. Out-going officers from the latter two positions are Christensen and Mrs. Wesley Brown, respectively.

Also serving on the 11-member board of directors are Jake Fischer, Fred Bracken, Bernard Eastman, John Stam, Grant Rinehart and Vernon Parker of Adrian.

Commander of the Legion post, Harold Brendle, explained Wednesday that the Legionnaires planned to organize a walking blood bank to be available to the hospital at all times as a free service. Goal of the Legion is to arrange a list of approximately 200 donors with a complete card file of names and blood type so donors may be immediately available whatever the emergency.

Malheur County Polio Donations Nearing \$5,000

Malheur county's contributions for the March of Dimes in the current campaign had reached nearly \$5,000 by noon Wednesday, Elmer Cruson, county chairman, announced.

Nyssans contributed \$645 in the special mailers sent out early in January; Ontario, \$775; Vale, \$225 and Adrian \$55, making a total of \$1700 through this phase of the campaign. Indications are that more mailers will yet be received.

Through other fund-raising enterprises, not including mailers, Nyssa contributions to date totaled \$900; Ontario and Vale, each \$1000; Adrian grade school, \$45.75. No report has been received from Jordan Valley, the campaign chairman stated.

Tabulation of proceeds from the Mother's March conducted Jan. 30 in the city of Nyssa and surrounding rural area and from the canisters which had been placed in downtown business firms have not been completed, Ward Wieneke, Nyssa chairman, reported.

Nyssa PTA Sets Special Program For Feb. 13 Meet

"PTA Goes Special" will be the theme of the Nyssa PTA meeting beginning at 8 p.m. Feb. 13 in the school cafeteria. The Rev. Earl Hastings will give the invocation.

Guest speaker for the event will be Mrs. Joy Hills Gubser of Salem, assistant superintendent of state department of education. She is state director of the Oregon Education department. Her address will revolve around a discussion of Oregon's program for mentally retarded children and guidance services of the state department.

Mrs. J. W. Rigney, director of special educational program, will demonstrate the use of special education equipment now being used in Nyssa schools.

Chairmen for the month's program are Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Pulliam. Scheduled on the evening's agenda is a quartet from Adrian.

Refreshments will be served at the close of the evening by Mr. and Mrs. Paul House and their committee members.

Mitchells Win Bank Day's Pot

Mrs. S. R. Mitchell of 706 North Second was the lucky recipient of Nyssa Bank Day's \$75 purse this week, when her name was called in one of the participating stores.

Next week's jackpot consists of \$50 for some lucky person.

Local Gas War Continues to Flare At Nyssa Stations

Nyssa's gas war, sputtering along for nearly two months now, appears to have settled down to a prolonged siege.

Posted prices have leveled off to 28.9 cents per gallon for regular gasoline and 33.9 for ethyl at most stations throughout the area, with a few combatants posting prices several tenths of a cent lower than these prices.

Current, war-level prices are about eight cents a gallon less for regular and five cents less for ethyl than most "pre-gas-war" prices around Nyssa. They have held their present low for several weeks now after dropping a little nearly every day during the first part of the outbreak.

An armistice meeting was held by many of the operators a couple of weeks ago in an effort to stabilize the price front, but unofficial sources report that about the only agreement reached "was to continue to disagree."

Some station operators report a slight increase in business since the gas war began. They attribute it to "more through traffic filling up their tanks in Nyssa" when they see the conspicuous signs proclaiming the current gas prices.

Signs of the "war" first were visible around the area shortly after the Dec. 7 anniversary of Pearl Harbor. The exact cause of the outbreak has not been determined. Other than the one armistice attempt which apparently broke down, there have been no indications of a truce in the near future.

Nyssa Merchants Launch Dollar Days Sales Event for Friday and Saturday

Something new and different is being instigated this week by the Nyssa Chamber of Commerce merchants' committee in the way of monthly sales promotions, according to Robert Wilson, chairman of the committee.

The first of a series of monthly "Dollar Days" events is being launched by 16 merchants who have set aside Friday and Saturday of this week for the promotion. The merchants are offering numerous items at reduced prices on pages 12 and 13 of this week's issue of The Gate City Journal and they represent "traffic stores" such as food, clothing, variety, hardware and furniture stores.

Wilson emphasized that no "give-away" gimmicks are being attempted to attract people to Nyssa, but each store is offering bargains and a variety of merchandise unavailable anywhere else in the lower Snake river valley. The merchants' committee chairman called attention to the large number of retail outlets in Nyssa as well as automobile and implement dealers, service businesses and all professional services that make Nyssa the ideal shopping center of the entire area.

"With traffic stores offering such outstanding bargains and the variety of selection of merchandise, we feel that we are helping residents of this area and at the same time increasing our own business in this period of changing national economy," Wilson commented.

Heart Sunday For February 23

Familiar red heart-shaped coin boxes are making their annual appearance in local businesses throughout Nyssa as both fund collectors and vivid reminders that February is Heart Month, according to Mrs. K. A. Danford, publicity chairman.

Heart Fund volunteer workers from the American Legion Auxiliary and Oregon Nurses District No. 20 association will be downtown Saturday Feb. 22 making collections, Mrs. Danford stated.

Sunday, Feb. 23, has been proclaimed as HEART Sunday and the above group will be making a door to door canvass of the community. Each contributor inserts his gift in an individual envelope and returns it to the worker. Where there is no one home, the volunteer leaves a "Sorry-I-Missed-You" envelope which can be addressed to "Heart", care of postmaster, Nyssa. Local postmaster, Lloyd Lewis and his staff will be cooperating again this year in forwarding all envelope donations directly to campaign headquarters.

Mrs. Harold Wilson, Nyssa is serving as Malheur county chairman, for the 1958 heart drive.

M & W Sets Grand Opening This Week For New, Enlarged Market Building

Grand opening of the M & W Market in their huge, new building at 424 Main, just west of Nyssa Motors, will be held Friday and Saturday, it was announced this week by Lloyd Mackrill, manager. The food market moved last week from its former location near the "Y" at the west end of Main to its newly constructed, 75 by 125-foot building.

Mackrill said that both days of the grand opening will feature free gas-filled balloons for the kiddies and "in store" specials in addition to features being offered in this week's advertisement.

Described by many as "the most spacious and beautiful food store in the entire lower Snake river valley," the new market is designed for huge display and shopping areas in each department. Fronting the market is a 135 by 180-foot parking area to accommodate 200 cars between the building and Main street.

Within the store are such unique features as a "self-opening" exit door, a record playing unit for music throughout the day and novelty "attention" compellers for many of the various departments.

M & W came to Nyssa in May, 1953 and purchased Gordon's Drive-In from Oscar Elliott and James Millard. Owners of the firm are Louis Mendiola and Fred Wisner of Boise who operate markets there and in Vale. Mackrill has been manager of the firm at Nyssa since it opened here in 1953.

City Council Throws Out Nyssa's \$225,000 Street Improvement District

Five-Year Levy For City Streets Expires in June

A 5-mill levy for city street maintenance expires June 30, after having been a voter-approved, five-year levy which started July 1, 1953. The special levy will have to be approved by a majority of Nyssa voters sometime before June, if the fund is to be continued, city officials explained.

For the fiscal year 1957-58 (ending June 30) a total of \$10,024.90 will have been raised on the city-wide property assessed valuation of \$2,004,980. The first year of the special levy, 1953-54, approximately \$8,500, was derived from the tax and has increased almost every year as new property increased the city's valuation. All funds have been used for street maintenance and some improvements such as intersections for a previous street improvement project in 1954.

The city council five years ago, called the special election after county voters rejected continuation of a county-wide road improvement tax of 10 mills from which the city received a sum comparable to 5 mills of its valuation.

Voters in June, 1953, approved the street tax 56 to 8.

Beet Growers, Sugar Company Slate Meeting

Sugar beet growers and Amalgamated Sugar company officials will meet again Monday at Twin Falls to conclude 1958 contracts, according to Henry Zobell, manager of Amalgamated's Nyssa district.

The two groups failed to reach an agreement on this year's contracts when they last met Jan. 20, although both emphasized that no "extreme" differences existed and predicted an early completion of all agreements.

Directors Meet, Discuss Salary For Coming Year

The board of directors of the Nyssa school district met Tuesday at which time they discussed the teachers salary plight in the district. A special meeting to discuss further possibilities on the 1958-59 teachers salaries, has been set for Feb. 25, according to R. V. Wilson, superintendent.

Wilson reported also on the discussion, concerning the conversion of coal to gas. Approximate reviewed at this time stands at \$12,000 and was proclaimed unfeasible for this year. Before further action will be taken, Wilson stated a meeting will be held with gas officials to determine additional details, sometime in March.

The board granted permission to the Catholic church of Nyssa to use six classrooms of the Nyssa grade school, as has been done in the past years, for a two week period after schools are dismissed in the latter part of May.

Northern Lights Give Bright Show Monday Night

Residents of a large part of the lower Snake river valley were treated Monday night to one of the most spectacular displays of northern lights ever witnessed in this area.

Lasting for more than two hours, the predominately red sun rays, sprinkled with green and blue, bounced from arctic and covered most of the northern horizon from east to west. Rapid changes in atmospheric conditions caused concentrated red glows and changing colors as well as positions and included numerous "flashes" similar to that of colored spotlights.

Numerous calls reached The but calls to residents north of town and as far as Vale soon revealed it was the aurora borealis in action. Most multiple service telephone lines in Nyssa were "tied up" for long periods as calls were being made and Ontario operators were kept busy with both local and long distance calls.

Proposed Nyssa Labor Camp Merger With Others Slated for Discussion

Background of the recently completed merger of management of Nyssa's labor camp with the three migrant labor camps at Adrian, Vale and Ontario and plans for improving labor distribution will be discussed with area labor users Tuesday at the annual meeting of the Malheur Farm Labor Sponsoring association in Ontario.

Warren Farmer of Nyssa, president of the Sponsoring association, reports that arrangements were recently completed for his group to lease the Nyssa camp from the Malheur County Housing Authority and to operate all four migrant camps under one management.

Turner Bond, county extension agent, said all interested labor users are invited to attend the meeting, scheduled to start at 10 a.m. at the East Side cafe in Ontario. He said the Sponsoring association will provide lunch at the cafe for those attending.

Combining management of the labor camps, according to Farmer and Dudley Sitton, chairman of Malheur Housing Authority, "is expected to improve efficiency of camp operation as well as help in distribution of labor Manage-

Nearly 100 Attend Tuesday Hearing, Voice Assessment Dissatisfaction

Nyssa's city council scrapped their previously approved, \$225,000 street and alley improvement district No. 5 Tuesday night after nearly 100 people appeared at the council's scheduled assessment roll hearing on the improvements.

After hearing protests the council directed City Attorney Harold Henigson to draw up ordinances establishing the improvement district and the charter amendment providing the issuance of \$48,000 in general obligation bonds to pay the city's portion of the project.

The council's actions were brought about largely by protests registered on First, Second and Third streets, north of Park avenue and especially the areas on these streets north of Locust, where nearly 100 percent of the property owners affected protested the assessments.

Council Could Have Continued As pointed out by Mayor Cliff Main at the hearing, the council would have been completely within their legal rights to pursue the improvements regardless of the Tuesday night protests since insufficient protests were heard at the Nov. 15 remonstrance hearing before the improvement district was established. City statistics provide that if a 66 and two-thirds percent protest is registered at the remonstrance hearing the council must drop the proposed improvement district.

Some 152 individual protests, including many absentee owners, against the already begun improvement of 48 blocks of streets and 11 alleys were registered with the council, both at the assessment roll hearing, which turned into a remonstrance hearing, and by letter and petition. These represent less than 20 percent of the city's total taxpayers.

40 Percent Object Forty-eight percent of the assessed area for streets and 19.2 percent of the area to be assessed for alleys registered a protest of some sort. About 40 percent of the individuals involved in the street assessments accounted for the 48 percent of the area, with 376 individuals to have been assessed in the district.

Nearly 80 of the 152 individual protests objected to the establishment of the improvement district, protests that should have been heard at the city council's earlier remonstrance hearing.

However about 33 percent of the protests, 10 of them registered at Tuesday night's meeting, were on the manner in which the costs were assessed. Most of these people expressed the opinion they were in favor of the street improvements but preferred the city council to devise a different assessment procedure.

Petitions "Misrepresented" One of these property owners told The Journal Wednesday morning that he and several others had been counted among the protesters and that a petition they signed had been "misrepresented."

The spokesman said he was led to believe the petition submitted Tuesday night was merely to have the council take a second look and attempt to reduce costs.

He went on to say that it was explained at the meeting the costs could not be reduced without (Continued on Page 8)

Case Dismissed From District Court in Boise

U. S. District Judge Chase A. Clark dismissed from U. S. District court in Boise, Thursday, a summons against Hanson and Parr Construction company, a Spokane co-partnership, filed by George DeHaven and his son, Bruce, route 1, Nyssa.

DeHaven, was injured August 12, 1957 when the boat in which he was riding collided with a steel cable extending between two construction barges under the new bridge being constructed on the Snake River. Driver of the boat, Darrel C. Butcher, 17 year Apple Valley boy was killed almost instantly.

The U. S. District judge finalized his decision by stating that the summons had not been properly served.

Men About Nyssa



Athol Reed Sayre

A busy, cheerful man who is dedicated to the education of youth in this area, this week's Man About Nyssa (who's really from Adrian) says he's never lived or worked more than 15 or 20 miles from where he was born.

Athol Reed Sayre was born in the same house as his mother in the Dixie community, six miles southeast of Parma. His mother's family had moved there about 1864.

Before young Sayre began school, his father gave up farming and went to work with the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation on the reclamation of lands around Wilder.

Graduate of Wilder Schools Sayre was graduated from the Wilder grade and high school. While in high school he participated actively in sports, calling signals as a football halfback, playing forward on the basketball squad and serving as shortstop on the baseball team. Incidentally, during this time the Wilder baseball and football teams were both first in their league play for three consecutive years.

He also served as student body president while attending high school in Wilder.

In the fall of 1933 Sayre enrolled in the College of Idaho where he played varsity football his first year and baseball for three years. He was also vice president of the student body and participated in many of the college plays.

Works for 36 Cents an Hour What's more, he was "busy pulling butter out of a churn" from midnight till 8 a.m. at a dairymen's co-op while he was attending college. For this chore he received 36 cents an hour, and because of it he found himself "running out of wind" and had to give up college football after the first year.

Sayre was graduated from the C of I in 1937. He had majored in history and had taken enough courses in education to qualify him for teaching.

In the summer of 1937 he played semi-pro baseball for Payette in the Idaho-Oregon league while (Continued on Page 8)