

### THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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

### Malheur Meanderings . . .

By John Birrel

Just couldn't bring myself to criticizing, complaining, or anything like that last week, what with it being Christmas and all. That was the reason for the Christmas greetings under this column last week; besides, it was an ideal opportunity to wish everyone Merry Christmas.

WHILE WE'RE STILL SPEAKING OF CHRISTMAS, it's interesting to note that, according to local post office figures, most people are actually doing much of their Christmas mailing early . . . earlier than in past years, at any rate. Christmas cards and packages seem to be moving through the post office at an accelerated, but much more steady rate during the holiday season.

POSTMASTER LLOYD LEWIS SAYS the Christmas peak seems to be spread out over several days and a little earlier in the season than it used to be. Could it be that the Christmas spirit has finally caused a little concern for the poor postal employees who used to be completely swamped the last day or two before Christmas? Or do you suppose people just got tired of their Christmas packages and cards not arriving until after Christmas?

DON'T KNOW THAT THIS "EARLY" BIT spread over to Christmas shopping, though. There were sure a lot of last-few-days shoppers in Nyssa the first part of last week. And those of us who were still shopping the evening of the 24th bumped into a number of other husbands we knew (and who seemed to be having almost as much trouble with 'z'es as we were).

BUT WE WEREN'T HALF AS TARDY about our shopping as some of the filmed television shows that have been bouncing over the air waves since last Thursday. Somehow or another it's pretty difficult (for me at least) to get in the proper mood to enjoy a good Christmas show, with carols and all, nearly a week after Santa has come and, not only have the packages been opened, but some of the toys broken by overly-enthusiastic youngsters.

A NATIONAL MAGAZINE WAS RIGHT in the Christmas spirit last week, too. They came out with a big, special show business (or something like that) issue. Lots of extra pages, extra color and extra pictures . . . but the catch was their news stand price was 35 cents, rather than the customary quarter.

WONDER IF THIS WILL SET a publishing precedent whereby publishers will sell their magazines by the page—sort of like potatoes by the pound. After hearing some news stand customer grumble over this 10 cent, unannounced increase my guess is that it won't. Also wonder if the next time this particular magazine runs a little short of their average number of pages if they'll knock the price down to 15 cents.

THE CITY PREPARED FOR THE CHRISTMAS season by grading some of the downtown alleys after the rains came a week or so ago. It wasn't that they didn't need something . . . and I can't speak for the others, but the grading of the alley behind the Gate City Journal resulted in making a rough, difficult to travel section or two just very nearly impassable for

anything but an amphibious tank. In fact, a spot or two ended up so soft and soupy it's a wonder the grader got out. THIS COLUMN HAD A FEW UNKIND things to say about "an Idaho daily" (as well as a couple of Portland papers) a few weeks back, so we just couldn't help noticing the editor's column in New Plymouth's Payette Valley Sentinel two weeks ago. It was devoted largely to unkind observations about the same paper. A QUOTE THAT WE JUST COULDN'T pass up . . . it "couldn't stand competition from a good high school paper. Have to get 'Time' or 'U.S. News' to find out what's going on outside of the justice and traffic courts in the Boise Valley."

### GATE CITY GLEANINGS

By Andy Nonimus

Coach Hup Hoopla of Teknu U was being interviewed by Sports Editor Scoop. Basquet over the nation's favorite TV network:

Scoop: Tell me, Hup, can your maple court five beat the Kampus Kuties, Hup?

Hup: Well, Scoop, we can beat them, Scoop, if we don't lose, Scoop.

Scoop: Hup, that's marvelous deduction, Hup; what do you think of your chances of losing, Hup, other than that you might win, Hup?

Hup: Yes, Scoop, I like to take a realistic view of my boys, Scoop, and you know, Scoop, they're all 6-foot, 8 inches tall, Scoop, so, Scoop, that should give us a good chance of either winning or losing, Scoop.

Scoop: I'm sure, Hup, that your millions of fans will be delighted to know this, Hup, so will our sponsors, Hup. Tell me, Hup, do all your boys brush their teeth, Hup, with that wonderful new toothpaste, Emery, that contains the secret formula Z\$%M-87, Hup?

Hup: You bet, Scoop! Not only that, Scoop, they use nothing but Scratchy Tissue, Scoop, because it's so soft, Scoop. Furthermore, Scoop, there's not a trace of B.O. on any of my boys, Scoop, they

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use Heavenly Dream underarm cream, Scoop, and don't even have to take showers, Scoop. Scoop: Thanks, Hup, I'll be looking forward, Hup, to our interview tomorrow, Hup, at the same time when Dr. Pete Pickup and his Keep Talking Pills bring us another exciting insight into the great maple court events, Hup.

Announcer: In case you missed the names, folks, that was Scoop, our sports announcer, interviewing Hup, the greatest basketball coach of all times.

The brain is a wonderful thing, it never stops functioning from the time you are born until you stand up to make a speech.

I've got one staunch supporter for my anti-weed campaign. Stephen Henigson was able to dispose of several hundred square yards of weeds on some vacant lots near his home without one iota of damage to property. The fire laddies had a chance to get in some practice and have indicated they would not resent the full treatment in refreshments of all kinds for their regular fire meeting.

Who do you think was approached? None other than Stephen's lawyer father, Hal.

I was assured that my eavesdropping and subsequent comments would be absolutely free of libel, defamation of character and personal injuries charges.

Money isn't everything. There are other important things such as stocks, bonds, travelers' checks, drafts and a good credit rating.

Nyssa's \$14,000 street sweeper was used on Main Monday morning for the first time in what seemed like several weeks. Instead of appreciating the new look, and the fact that automatic scoops won't have to be used in lieu of, one wise-acre had to comment it probably was done to welcome the new city manager scheduled to take office next Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Steven of Seattle visited Saturday and Sunday with her parents, the Rev. and Mrs. Paul Ludlow.

### LOCAL NEWS

Mrs. Don Buell and children of Nampa and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smith and family were Friday visitors at the Leland Ricks home.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Overstake and boys have moved into their newly constructed home at 494 North 7th St.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Rookstool, Mrs. John Reffett and Mrs. Joe Stam attended the junior-senior concert in Fruitland last Thursday evening.

Hiram Ballou of Wilder was a Friday overnight guest at the home of his son, Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Ballou and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Sarazin and boys are spending the Christmas holidays visiting at the home of her sister, Mr. and Mrs. John Huntington at Los Angeles, Calif.

Larry Vaughn and son of Idaho Falls were Friday visitors at the Lewis Riggs home.

Jeanine Wynn is spending the holiday vacation with her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Godfrey and family at Preston, Ida.

Bill Stringer returned home last Monday after one week's visit with his mother, Mrs. Ed Liddle at Wagoner, N.C.

Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Brady spent two days over Christmas at the home of their son, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Brady and family who recently moved to their new home in suburban Boise.

Mrs. Lillian Voeller of Buhl was a guest over the Christmas holidays of her son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Rex Voeller.

Holiday guests at the Larry Woodell home are Mrs. Woodell's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carmen Bradford of Novato, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. George Cleaver attended the Christmas party for Malheur county officials in Vale last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Woodell and family moved to their new home on Clark Blvd. last week.

Richard Wilson, a senior at University of Arizona, Tucson, is spending Christmas vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Brice and son of Payette visited Sunday at the Lynn Matheny home.

Mr. and Mrs. George N. Bear visited Sunday with friends at Sheaville.

### Ma-Pa Group Hosts Progressive Meal

The Ma-Pa group of the Methodist church held a progressive dinner Friday evening, Dec. 19, with approximately 17 couples participating.

The dinner began with hors d'oeuvres served at the Boyd Wilson home, the main course served at the Cliff Main home and dessert at the home of Eugene Grasty.

### Extension Unit Announces Meeting

The Nyssa Home Extension unit will hold its first meeting of the new year at the Methodist church Thursday, Jan. 8, at 1 o'clock.

The subject will be copper tooling and fancy pillow tops. Mrs. Gene Grasty and Mrs. Clarence Raymond will be project leaders.

### Amity Club Party And Luncheon Held

Approximately 17 members of the Amity club met Friday, Dec. 19, at the home of Mrs. Grant B. Hughes for a buffet luncheon and Christmas party. Mrs. Taft Pett was co-hostess for the event.

Table prizes were won by Mrs. Doug Bateman and Mrs. Dean Fife. Following the luncheon, gifts were exchanged.

### Have Gift Exchange

Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Sarazin and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Tensen and family, Dr. J. J. Sarazin and Miss Eva Boydell were guests Friday evening at the David Sarazin home for an exchange of gifts.

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### Ideal Gas Employees Entertained at Party

Mr. and Mrs. Wilton Jackson were hosts to a Christmas party and dinner for employees and their wives of Ideal Gas and Appliance store Monday evening of last week at Brownie's cafe. Special guests were Mrs. Jackson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Hillman. Approximately 27 attended from Nyssa, La Grande, Baker and Weiser.

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Visits from Denver Holiday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Oldemeyer are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Blankenship of Denver, Colo.

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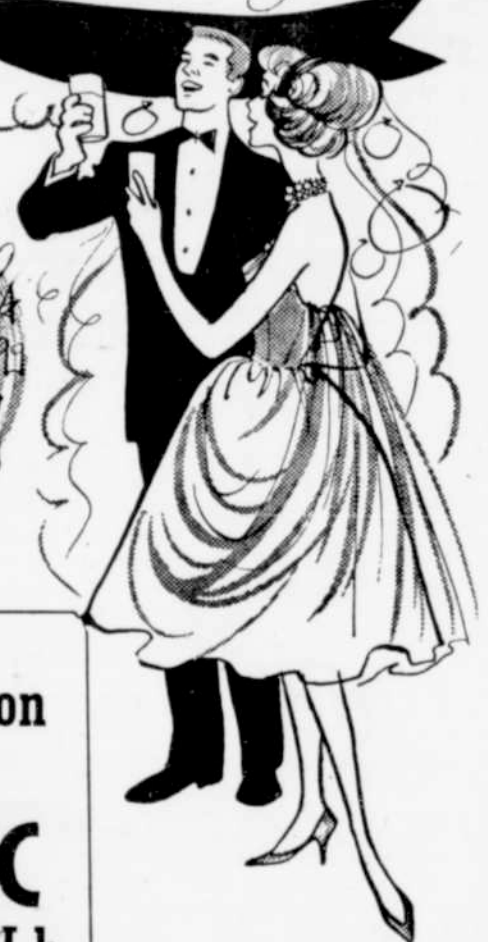
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Kraft — Quart Size  
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**SHRIMP AHoy BREADED SHRIMP 89¢**  
2 8-Oz. Pkgs.

**CHICKEN or TURKEY PIES 5 for \$1**

Boyd's—S & W—Breakfast Cup  
**Coffee . Lb. 79¢**  
Large Size

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**Lettuce 29¢**  
Solid Head 2 FOR

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