

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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

More Income, Less Expense

The prize statement of the year was made in a neighboring town last week when a pollster asked numerous people their opinions of a state \$1 minimum wage law.

One of the many in favor of the legislative action commented, "It would be fine if the cost of living would stay where it is and they could bring up wages too."

Whether this was a wise-crack or a slip-of-the-tongue, no one knows, but such views, if they are prevalent, might be the key to the nation's inflation problem. It is much like saying, "We need new schools, additional curricula and more playgrounds, but keep our taxes the same." A homemaker might insist on frozen strawberries in February at the same price she can buy them at the farm during strawberry season and the young-in-heart might accept literally the old bromide, "Two can live as cheaply as one."

It should be noted here that this newspaper's lowest wage is substantially above the proposed minimum wage limit and we are not thinking of our immediate overhead costs.

We are thinking of those youngsters who want to mow lawns, wash windows, run errands and in general pick up odd jobs that more often than not lead to steady employment, logical wage increases and possible careers while they earn as they learn.

There are hundreds of housewives who accept part time work for 75 cents or 90 cents an hour—will there be a place for them under such restrictions or will their fill-in jobs be absorbed into the vast machinery of skilled workers who can demand and receive wages many times that some law makers would set by legislation?

What Is a Signature
A careless habit of the American people was brought to light last week when petitions for the proposed hospital district were circulated in the Nyssa and Adrian communities.

Some petitions were found to have as many as half the signers who used signatures different from those on file in the county registration books. Technically, a name can be dropped from a petition if it is not exactly the same as that used in registering.

Too many people are inclined to use a first and last name one time, initials and a last name another, or any of several discrepancies. When public business is involved, it is only natural that rigid rules must be used in determining the intent of the petition signer in relation to his voting registration.

Many hours of work and effort were required to search out those who had used an incorrect signature to endorse the hospital district. Most of the errors were corrected before the petitions were filed with the county clerk Monday.

An even more serious state of neglectfulness was discovered when it was learned that many prominent, civic-minded persons were not registered voters and were unable, although willing, to sign the petition.

Intense drives to get people registered are part of every political campaign. This off-election year might be an ideal time for public-spirited citizens to give a hand in getting others registered and in helping stress the importance of signing all records correctly and consistently.

LDS Boy Scouts Hold Banquet Friday Evening

The Guides LDS Boy Scout Pack Friday evening at the Nyssa LDS Stake house was attended by 135 scouts and their guests, with 7 wards participating.

Darrell Baxter, scout executive of the Snake River Valley and Eldon Smith both of Payette were special guests.

On the evening's program of which Mrs. Dean Blaylock was mistress of ceremonies, were 3 skits presented by Vale, Ontario and Parma scouts, an instrumental number by six Nyssa Second Ward boys and a vocal solo by Jay Gibson.

Members of the stake primary board served the meal.

Kent Main was a guest last week end of Donnie Brewer at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Brewer in Owyhee community.

Malheur Meanderings . . .

By Johnny Birrel
QUESTION. IF THE CURRENT explanation of Nyssa's mysterious noise that it's a squeaking beet pulp loader is true, why doesn't somebody oil it, grease it or something? It's still moaning and groaning away at all hours of the day and night. Besides being noisy, one would think it would be hard on the machinery.

NOTICED IN THAT OVERTHE-TO Idaho daily the other day that Nyssa's city manager is now allowing local motorists to make a right turn on a red light. . . just like the Oregon state law has been permitting all motorists to do for several years.

WONDER IF THIS MEANS that, before the Idaho paper so informed us, Nyssans had been forbidden such turns, in direct defiance of state law, off the state highway which is our Main Street? That's the way it would appear from the story, or else, just possibly, do you suppose the paper could have misquoted Art?

OF COURSE, THE FIRST ALTERNATIVE wouldn't appear to be so far-fetched either (except that on Jan. 22 in the Journal police chief Hansen reminded motorists that such turns were permitted by state law) in view of the city's obsolete yield right of way signs on Park and Good. Yes, I know, the last time you were somewhere else in the state you saw these signs in use there, so what makes me say they're obsolete?

IF YOU THINK BACK, though, I'll bet you'll remember that those you saw in most places elsewhere were posted only at such spots where they reminded motorists that one-way traffic was approaching from their right and therefore, under state law, they must yield the right of way.

INTERESTING THING ABOUT NYSSA'S signs, though, is that, being posted on both sides of Park and Good, they advise motorists to yield the right of way even to traffic approaching from their left, while the state law says that on such intersections traffic to the right (or entering the intersection first) has the right of way.

QUESTION NOW ARISES. . . if an accident occurs at such an intersection (as five or six did last year at just one of them), who's in the right—the motorist driving down, let us say, Park from the west or the one on Second from the South? The state law says the guy on Park is wrong since he should have yielded to his right. The city sign says the guy on Second should have waited for the guy on Park.

SO WHO IS IN THE RIGHT? Why not ask your insurance company how the Oregon courts have ruled in the past. I'll bet they can tell you.

THE OPEN DOOR ON THE SECOND FLOOR. . . that's the way Colby has been referring

to the city manager's office in the city hall this past week. Wonder if that means we should now be calling the police facilities in the basement "the barred door on the first floor?"

FROM TIME TO TIME this columnist gets a little involved in a sentence that comes out, shall we be kind and say "a wee bit complicated and complex". So in my own defense (guilty conscience, you say?) I'd like to quote what I consider a true masterpiece of complexity and confusion. It comes from Gregory's sports column in the Oregonian (he's considered one of the deans of sportswriting) and goes like this:

"From the first it has been obvious that the full story of why the NCAA continued USC on its probation list, with threatened expulsion should there be another infraction, for a relatively minor offense in connection with transportation for two football recruits remained untold, but now it comes out." There, stop and chew on that for awhile!

BILLBOARDS SHOULD BE NEXT (I'm running out of newspapers), and I noticed one not far from Nyssa's Main street just the other day that stopped me cold. Here it is the middle of February and it still proudly displays Santa, on a rocket, and the fact that one of our local merchants has a complete toyland.

THE FACT I DIDN'T NOTICE is before mid-February wouldn't seem to speak too highly of the effectiveness of this particular media of advertising as far as some people are concerned, but then maybe I'm a little prejudiced.

ANOTHER NYSSA NOISE EXPLANATION was just offered by Doc Sarazin (J. J., that is). Doc says he thinks they've been raising so much you-know-what down in Hell's canyon here lately that what we've been hearing is coming in over the power lines and is the yells of the Devil himself. . . trying to get away from his own canyon.

GATE CITY GLEANINGS

By Andy Nonimus

I'd like to nominate Vern Parker, Adrian's ex-officio mayor and general ambassador-of-good-will, at large, and Salesman Ralph Curry as a team to show Centennial visitors how old-time horse-traders operated back in pioneer times.

It was a complicated and somewhat lengthy business session with Ralph, a Chevrolet salesman, trying to trade a used Ford pickup to Vern, an enthusiastic Chevrolet owner. Hill-climbing challenges with cash bets entered the discussion and you can guess who backed out because of the makes

of vehicles involved!

A placard in one of the European countries befriended by America had this wording: "Yankees, go home. Leave us a loan."

Just three more days! It was Jan. 15, 1959 A.D., when The Boss, John Birrel and I took the oath in blood not to mention anything unkind about city activities or inactivities.

I've kept my mouth shut and nearly lost some teeth driving at 4 m.p.h. down our alley, so I tried opening my big yaps and got the hiccups on the roller-coaster alley-way. I'll just have to take it on the chin (sic) until Saturday when this here truce comes to a screeching halt.

People who want complimentary epitaphs on their tombstones should be careful where they do their chiseling.

The following is from the Oregon Tax Research bulletin "Your Taxes": "HB 251, by Rep. Whelan, provides all state employees shall be granted a \$25 per month salary increase. Based on 20,200 employees, bill would cost \$12,120,000."

Wayne Garner is the only red-

blooded American youth promoting the beard-growing aspect of Oregon's Centennial. His crop of brush is a beauty, exceeded only by his crops of field seeds.

However, this week the boys at the post office are uttering some

sounds of interest in competing among themselves to see who can come up with the best chin warmers. Postmaster Lloyd Lewis has his interest aroused and is challenging Bob Wilson, Chamber (Continued on Page 6)



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