

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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Editors and Publishers



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

A Surplus? Consume It!

A novel approach to the problem of surpluses has just reached our desk, and it is so simple we wonder why some of our political parties have not already advocated it as a solution.

From our angle, Beatrice Parsons, associate editor of The National Grange Monthly is entitled to all the credit, since this solution came with her name attached.

The three separate steps to take to reach a solution are: (1) recognize and admit that surpluses are caused by UNDER-CONSUMPTION and not by over-production, (2) increase consumption to remove the surplus, (3) do the latter through sponsoring contests to eat more foods where a surplus exists, make more dresses and use materials that are in surplus. (If wool and cotton are both in surplus just double the number of dresses—making half of them from each product.)

Have you ever heard of anything so simple? And think of all the years that the National Lawmakers have wrangled over the farm surpluses and the millions of dollars it costs to store them each day. Now we can just let everyone produce all they wish and merely consume it or put it on our backs and wear it. This same release says that when the women's page editors have cooperated with the USDA in urging the use of seasonal foods (such as potatoes) the food has been consumed and has not become another government surplus.

We are carrying an item in this paper on a meeting of the Malheur County and Western Idaho Potato Growers meeting to be held this Monday night at the Nyssa high school. This will give them plenty of time to contact women's page editors and get them lined up to promote the eating of all potatoes so there will be no surplus and thus the price will also be good. But perhaps they should remember that there are some disloyal people to this program—and right here in Nyssa too! A WEIGHT CONTROL GROUP was organized here in Nyssa the latter part of 1958, and in today's mail we received notice that they plan to organize another such group in Ontario—so you potato growers must stop any such movements lest they spread to the entire country.

Nyssa and the Centennial

There are only a few short weeks left until the Wagon Train will arrive in Nyssa on July 24. We have received scant information that can be passed on to the public as to what has been done to prepare for this event. But it is doubtful if there will be another time when Nyssa will have as good an opportunity to be in the spotlight as on the 24th. All of the eyes of Oregon and a large part of the rest of the nation will be focused on us, as this is the point of entry of the Wagon Train.

We believe that a large percentage of Nyssans and our rural folks are unaware of the magnitude of what this can mean to the town and county. If we look at it from a purely selfish standpoint, it is at least a Golden Opportunity to advertise our town, community, and county. If we make proper plans and advertise it, there should be thousands of outside people here. Should the town be decorated specially? Should it be known what dignitaries are to be here representing the state and the larger cities? How long will the Wagon Train be here? Have any plans been made to furnish entertainment? Will there be any special traffic problems and will there be need for additional local police?

There are a lot of other questions that should be anticipated and answered as soon as possible. Then the public should be let in on this so they could make their plans and invite their out-of-town friends to come to Nyssa and tell them what we plan to have. Let's all get behind this movement and not wait for the chairman of each activity to "draft" us. Let us volunteer. There are plenty of things that all can do. There are some parts of the town that should be cleaned up before that time. We are not only willing to give this publicity—we're anxious to do it.

Associated Chambers Hold Meeting at Oregon Trail Hall

The Associated Chambers of Commerce held their monthly meeting at the Oregon Trail Hall Monday night, following a banquet served by the ladies of that community.

The principal speaker was Howard F. Ahlskog, Supt. of the Boise National Forest and his topic was "The Conservation of Our National Forests."

Entertainment was furnished by Bob Pond with a piano solo, a vocal solo by Nancy Skeen, accompanied by Barbara McPartland at the piano.

FROM THIS CORNER

By T.M.B.

"My friend says you have used cars in your paper. I would like to buy one that is used to Swedish people for that's what we are."

Maybe we should plead guilty to having "used cars" in our paper. We had just about everything else in last week's issue. The front page was dated a week ahead. We had too many locals and ads for a 10 page paper but not enough for 12 pages—so we ran

locals on the front page . . . and in an item on the Bully Creek project we put the word "additional" in the wrong place and made too many acres instead of more water available upon completion of the proposed dam. (The other mistakes were minor.)

But as Hal Henigson says, "We had fun," and so far no one has taken us to task too severely. Mrs. Alters (Fern) noticed the date error and then told us that she and Duane had even put out a paper that was dated in the past century since they came here in 1952.

We noticed, too, that the Emmett, Idaho, Messenger-Index got two front page stories on the Cherry Harvest and a proposed new grade school all interwoven, and the Meridian paper carried livestock prices and notice of a Wave recruiter coming to town on their front page. DOG DAYS must have gotten here a little early this year!

Changing things do not necessarily mean making them better nor does keeping them the same make them worse. But without change there is no progress. Art Colby says there has been no change in the death rate in Nyssa since it was first incorporated. It still remains at one death for every inhabitant. We like Art's philosophy but wonder what type of diplomacy he and the council will be able to use to satisfy the people when it becomes necessary for a decision on what streets, if any, will be designated for truck traffic when the local produce begins to roll in to Nyssa. Personally, we have confidence in the group!

We were interested in the editorial observations in the Argus-Observer last week on their Centennial Hospitality Week. They felt that the committees had done excellent jobs in preparing the

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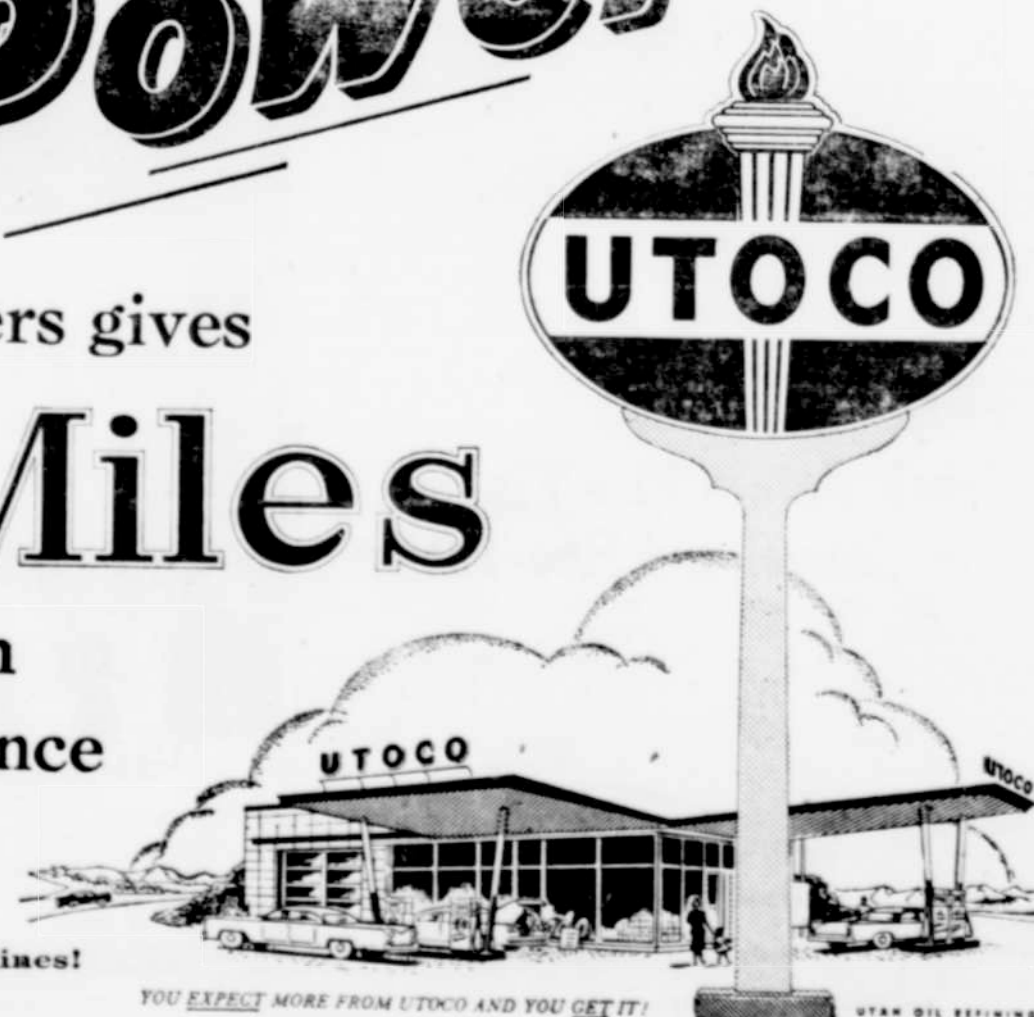
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