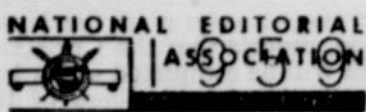


THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

TED M. BRAMMER, Editor

Ted M. Brammer and Gale Z. Brammer, Publishers



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From This Corner...

By T.M.B.

It isn't half as hard to sit through church as it is to get there. In fact last Sunday was a downright pleasure—don't know when I have heard such beautiful singing—but like most of the others I didn't bother to tell the choir.

There wasn't much preaching—five youngsters, including some small babies were baptized, three were the children of my nephew, Gale.

I'm not sure I'll go back—the preacher didn't even invite us back for Easter, and it less than four months away! But that wasn't all—this preacher referred to the children as my grandchildren—guess he must have guessed my wife's age while she was helping hold them at the baptismal services!

In some respects it seems the people here have had the Christmas spirit for quite a while—they have been shopping early, have been out to see Santa twice already, and increased church attendance. But they haven't been getting so much cheer from the bottle that they have been seen staggering on the streets, and there haven't been any serious accidents caused from drunken driving recently. May it continue being so.

When one is away from his old home town as short a time as we have been it is easy to get real homesick for the old friends. We read our Christmas greeting cards a great deal closer than ever before and have made an effort to write a note on those we mailed. If we'd all write a personal note on all of them, they would be much more enriching.

I don't know at this time what kind of paper we'll have this week—nor the size. Our regular advertisers have been too busy and Christmas too near to the time the paper comes out for the ads to give them the maximum benefit they should get, so most of them are missing. But we have had a great demand for greeting ads and have tried to give all our customers an opportunity to buy, if they wished. The late calls for these have ruined our "deadline" for this week, but barring breakdowns or some other calamity we'll have the paper to all of you in the trade territory by Christmas eve.

Don't ever be surprised what people will do for money, but don't expect to get much for a few dollars, either.

It will soon be the end of the year and a heap of work making out all the reports—this time the annual along with that of the fourth quarter. Reminds me that income tax time is also

rapidly approaching. But this is a poor time to think of such painful projects.

It isn't a sign of weakness to say, "I don't know" but to pretend you do is certainly a striking form of hypocrisy. Most of us also show this ailment when we think we can get along with our fellowmen without asking help from Above. We know this, deep down inside, but fail or refuse to take time to admit it until we reach the point where we cannot make it alone, then we call on Him.

May your Christmas be of the brand and of the dimensions to give you all LASTING, LIVING LIFE.

'Great Decisions' Discussion Groups Planned in Oregon

Wanted: Oregonians to join their friends in forming Great Decisions discussion groups. Only requirement is an interest in key foreign policy issues facing the U. S. in 1960 and a desire to study facts to arrive at an informed opinion.

Study groups that follow the national Great Decisions discussion outline will meet weekly during February and March, explained state chairman Mrs. Mabel Mack, assistant director of Oregon State college extension service.

Great Decisions discussion groups give participants an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of current foreign affairs. Small, informal discussion groups are the heart of the program through which individuals form their own opinions on U. S. foreign policy and report their opinions to policy-makers in Washington.

Discussion topics for the forthcoming nationwide study of foreign policy are: Communist timetable for 1960, Divided Europe, Red China on the March, India's Middle Way, Hope for Stability in the Middle East, Goals for Africa, Cuba's Revolution, and U. S. Global Strategy.

Fact sheets giving background information on the topics are prepared by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA), a nationwide, nonpartisan educational agency. FPA's fact sheets this year will present three viewpoints on each of the eight topics: America's, the Communists' and the country involved.

At the end of each discussion, participants will record their own decisions on individual ballots. Summary of opinion ballots cast in Oregon will be sent to the U. S. state department.

County Great Decisions councils are being reactivated now

Letters to Editor

Signed letters to the editor are welcomed and will be printed if they do not contain comments of a libelous nature or attacks on religious and racial groups. Publication of the letters does not signify the agreement of this newspaper with opinions expressed.

To the Editor:

Now just hold your horses!

Everybody knows that there should be stop signs against traffic coming from the north past the post office, but good grief, people should not park in front of the post office to get their mailing business done because if they do and get hit by a car coming from the north, it's their own fault. There's lots of parking space on the east and south side of the post office.

Can't you realize that people coming in from the north would have to make an extra stop? That's unthinkable. Sure I know as well as everybody else does that because of no stop sign, someone is sure to be hurt or killed in front of the post office. But the drivers coming from the north just can't be responsible. They're not that kind.

That's also why the collection box at the post office is placed as it is. Sure it robs the great majority of post office patrons of two extra parking spaces, but just think what it would mean to some poor souls if that box was just around the corner to the east. They would have to make at least five (think of it, five) extra stops, or drive around the corner to get to it. That's just too much to ask of them.

No, I'm afraid your complaining about arrangements of things as is at the post office is very unkind to some—well, shall we say quite unbecoming.

Your irrational friend,
(Adolph) E. Schroeder

PERSONALS

Chester Jamieson and son of Nampa were Sunday guests at the home of his niece, Mrs. Willis Bertram and family.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Chamberlain of Ogden arrived Saturday to spend the holidays with their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Bybee.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Eldridge left Tuesday for Dallas, Texas, where they will spend Christmas with their son, Bob Eldridge and family.

throughout the state to help organize the 1960 program and make study materials available to discussion groups. Mrs. Mack explained that each group organizes and runs itself, but can look to the county council for help.

Last year more than 400 groups organized in Oregon. The program is also carried by high school social studies classes. Each issue is reviewed by Oregon newspapers, television and radio stations throughout the state.

Bruce Blake, FPA assistant regional director, San Francisco, suggests that many existing groups might want to discuss Great Decisions topics each week. Possibilities might be bridge clubs, car pools, business people who lunch together, firemen, church groups, and many others who would like to study and share their views on U. S. foreign policy, he said.

Great Decisions is co-sponsored in Oregon by Oregon State college extension service and the general extension division of the state system of higher education in cooperation with the FPA, the state department of education, state library, and some 25 statewide organizations.

For further information about the 1960 Great Decisions program contact your county Great Decisions chairman or your county extension agent, Mrs. Mack says.

Our Florida Trip

By Mrs. Bob Palmer

We Palmers, John and Mary, Bob and I left Nyssa about 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7 on the first lap of our trip to Bal Harbour, Florida, to be the guests of the J. I. Case company for their premiere showing of the 1960 line of equipment and some sun and fun filled days in the most elaborate hotel in Bal Harbour.

The trip to Salt Lake was uneventful, the four of us having made the same trip numerous times. As we were about to check into a hotel to spend the night we were notified that if we went immediately to the airport we would take an earlier flight out of Salt Lake. The boys must have been feeling nervous, because they took out a tremendous amount of flight insurance! The first lap of our journey was to Denver where we were to change planes for Florida. So far, so smooth!

Arrival in Miami was 5 p.m., Tuesday where we boarded a bus for Bal Harbour, the most exclusive section of the Florida beaches. In order to own a home in one area there, you must not only be able to afford the fantastic prices charged for everything, but must be passed on by a board of 12 men and women who give or deny their stamp of approval on your application to purchase property. This section is inhabited by millionaires and movie stars.

We had reports and pictures of the Americana Hotel before leaving home, but to see is to believe! And it is almost impossible to imagine the beautiful architecture in the many hotels up and down the harbour beaches. The Americana being no exception to the rule, it is impressive even before you step through the big front door.

At the entrance to the Americana is a soaring, v-shaped sculpture designed in stainless steel. Symbolic of the joining of the northern and southern nations of the Western Hemisphere, it is imbedded in a marble platform which carries the outlines of the 21 nations in the hemisphere. There are also two statues notable for their size and detail fashioned in Italy of beautiful ceramics.

The floor of the lobby is composed of Roman travertine marble set in an irregular pattern. In the center is a huge terrarium, 35 ft. in diameter and 40 ft. high. Palm trees, huge-leaf tropical vines, blooming orchids, banana trees, flowering plants and giant tree ferns reach to the roof, which is open to admit sun and air.

A suspended circular staircase leading around the terrarium and down to the lower lobby is in shades of pink Tennessee marble.

Beneath the stairs is a reproduction of tropical everglade, complete with cypress knees, papyrus and water hyacinth. . . . and 3 live alligators. The lower lobby contains a shopping center where you may purchase anything from a \$1000 evening gown to a live baby alligator to such everyday items as the comb you forgot to tuck in before you left home.

The Gaucho Steak House has received, for the third year running, the coveted Holiday magazine award for "Distinctive Dining". The Carioca Lounge advertised no "cover charge" but we noticed that when some friends entered the portals thereof, the charge for an ordinary coke was \$1.80.

Outside, the hotel is surrounded with the most beautiful in sculpture, architecture, and tropical gardens. Two swimming pools are there: one enclosed and one open. Bath houses are provided for dressing to swim in the Atlantic.

The first days were taken by showing of new equipment, and business meetings for the men.

The ladies were entertained by a boat cruise through the islands that passed some of the millionaires homes.

The third day, drawing was held for the ladies where 32 prizes were given away. Mary Palmer was the happy recipient of one of the white plastic leather train cases.

Friday was dubbed "Free Day" due to the fact that you were free of business all day. The fellows went deep sea fishing, and Bob hooked a fish with the back end of him evidently a little "used" by a hungry shark or barracuda—it was gone. They came home to hear accounts of our day at the Seaquarium. The trained animals were a sight to behold. It was really something to see the seals take a long stick in their mouth, balance a stick across it, and then a small rubber ball and go waddling across the stage to climb back on the platform—all without losing their cargo.

We heard a sea lion blow a horn and listened to the seals sing. We watched the vicious shark circling in their runway and were careful to observe the "Danger" signs for they really did appear menacing. The inside aquarium was a camera fan's delight with a multitude of strange creatures of the deep and all windows with special lighting fixtures for picture taking.

We spent some time beachcombing and discovered that you do really need a comb—or something—to find anything of any size on such a small and much-used beach.

Having spent some time shopping in two different districts, we found that in Florida, as elsewhere, you can purchase just about anything you want in a variety of price ranges.

A completely cosmopolitan Florida district, the population is as varied as the people who vacation there. No one bothers with anything that could be remotely called an over abundance of clothing. From the youngest to the very oldest everyone is out to get the greatest benefit from the rays of the Florida sunshine.

The face make up is of the very extremely extreme. Very heavy sun-tan base with bright blue eye shadow and obviously false eye lashes were the rule instead of

the exception. Mouth sizes ran to the large rather than small variety, and hair coloring was to be left to the imagination of the wearer or her hairdresser, whichever boasted the biggest imagination. The favorite seemed to be a mottled mass of beige and brown "confetti" or stripe. It is hard to describe with mere words the zebra-like effect it gave the wearer.

We hired a car one day and traveled down the coast to visit the oldest building in America, an old Spanish monastery. It had been dismantled in Spain, each stone marked separately, boxed and shipped to America. Upon arrival, the hay each stone was packed in was quarantined, so each box had to be unpacked and the hay burned. This was such a tremendous job that the original purchaser left the stones in storage for some years until two men bought it, shipped it to Florida and reassembled it again. It took many years and many thousands of dollars before it was completed. The grounds surrounding the monastery are patterned after the gardens that were in Spain. The monks' dining hall is now being used to house some objects of ancient and cultural value.

In the evenings we were royally entertained by such notables as J. P. Morgan, Vaughn Monroe, the Blackburn Twins, The Four Voices whom you have probably

heard on the Arthur Godfrey show, with Peter Donald acting as M. C. each evening, and a 16 piece band. Each evening's show lasted an hour and a half. The last one of the week was a composite of all the stars of the week in a show entitled "An American in Paris", complete with a troupe of Can-Can dancers.

Of special interest to the ladies who like to cook, we might mention here some of the special touches used by the 20 chefs who are famous over the world for their culinary art. Chocolate sauce over ice cream was flavored with a tiny bit of rum, making a delightful combination. Apple pie was changed from the usual by the addition of sesame seeds and a vanilla custard on top instead of a crust. Creamed cubes of chicken breast and mushrooms was served over a delicious puff pastry.

We arrived back in Nyssa Monday afternoon and I feel rather baffled and wondering if it has all been a dream, but I imagine we will wake up the day the live alligators arrive in the mial. Sure, we're tourists and didn't care who knew it. If you have an urge to travel, try Florida for size. No matter what you are looking for, you are sure to find it there!

CHRISTMAS DANCE

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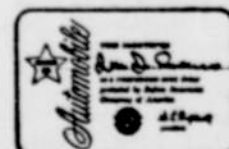


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Christmas...

How wonderful is Christmas, and the message that it brings, of Peace and Good Will to All! How it warms every heart, brightens every eye and lightens every care! As we joyously celebrate this Holy Day we wish that the glow of happiness that it brings may lastingly abide with you.



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