

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

TED M. BRAMMER, Editor and Publisher



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Improve County Practices!

Elsewhere on this page is a letter from County Judge G. Y. Chester of Vale.

He intends it to be an answer to our editorial of Aug. 18, "Spoils to the Victors," in which we outlined his 10-year-plan to buy a state highway for Vale, through use of farm-to-market road funds. And his crowning act for his hometown in securing a third bridge across Malheur river—all within a half-mile stretch.

But, like most typical politicians, he avoided the main issue and devoted most of his letter to a general listing of road work done in the county during his administration. He made no mention of farm-to-market road funds or the purpose for which they were intended. Nor did he mention the \$30,000 cost per mile of Lytle boulevard construction and that cost of construction of oiled roads by the Nyssa road district was approximately \$5000 per mile.

If this were to be a farmers road he must have thought they were going to be hauling a lot heavier loads into, and from, Vale than they were on the roads leading to Nyssa built at one-sixth the cost.

It appears that the judge has a phobia about the Nyssa road district. In a previous interview he said it and Ontario road district had "raped" the county road funds, and, in this letter he speaks of forcing the Nyssa road district to help with two miles on the south end of his 12 miles of construction on Lytle boulevard.

Among the road work his letter tells of doing is oiling 6.4 miles of Pothill drive. But he does not tell of the unpaid pledges of some people along the drive that were supposed to be 10 percent of the county's cost.

If these pledges were never good and were uncollectible, why does he keep talking about the people paying part of the cost? Empty promises won't do the job!

And if the pledges are good and are collectible, is it fair to the other taxpayers to let them go without effort to collect them?

And if the state had a WRITTEN contract to build this bridge and Malheur county had to sign a written agreement to pay 20 percent of the cost, is it not equally good business to get a WRITTEN agreement that the city of Vale will defray 10 percent of the cost of the bridge project?

We think it is only good business and hope that the commissioners along with the judge will insist on this being done prior to the start of any construction.

It is still our opinion that the judge is due a monument from Vale. But it appears that he wants to let Nyssa, Ontario, and other parts of the county in on it—like he let us in on the cost of this third bridge across the Malheur at the city of Vale.

Owyhee Community Church News

Sunday, Aug. 28—The Rev. and Mrs. Louis Hoke were guests at the church. The Rev. Hoke spoke in the absence of the regular pastor, Robert L. Kriner. He has just graduated from Moody Bible Institute in Chicago and is awaiting an available pastorate. The Rev. Hoke is from the Owyhee community.

Tuesday—Several women of the church helped with the booth

Mrs. C. P. Palmer and son, Fred Reiger of Boise, were weekend guests of Mrs. Angie Cook.

at the fair. They were the Mes. Glenn Hoffman and Glenda, Elver Nielsen, Charles Chapin, Harold Dail and Otis Bullard.

Wednesday—Bible study was dismissed and the group traveled to Boise to hear Dr. De Haan speak.

Friday—Women's Missionary meeting will be held at the home of Ethel Price.

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.

Vale, Oregon
August 22, 1960

Editor
Gate City Journal
Nyssa, Oregon

I am writing this letter just to get the records straight. I am not a candidate for re-election. I wish to state I have been your County Judge for seven years and have lived in Malheur County fifty-four years. There has been more done in more places in these last nine years I have worked for Malheur County than in any previous nine years.

We have worked on every road in Malheur County, built bridges, put in drain pipe and graveled more roads in the last nine years than most people understand. I claim under my Judge-ship there has been a better coverage of Malheur County than ever before. I wish at this time to name some of them.

I will mention the Dead-Ox Flat. We pulled the bar pits and graveled every road in that District and oiled 7 miles of the Hi-Line Road, something that has never been done before. We have pulled the bar pits, regraded and graveled most of all of the roads in the Ontario District. I wrote the first letter asking the Oregon State Highway to move one span of the Nyssa steel bridge and put it over the Owyhee river on the road to the Owyhee Dam.

The State gave us the bridge but refused installation. I carried the ball for the County Court and with Commissioners George Cleaver and Amiel Claude we helped along with the South Side Irrigation District, Isaac Walton League, Nyssa Road Department, Malheur County Road Department, Individual Donors, and the sum of near \$15,000 of Malheur County Road fund was used on the projects.

At Jordan Valley, miles of road graded and graveled, bridges and drain pipes installed and repaired and oiled 3.4 miles of road from Highway to Arock. The farmers on this road contributed \$5,000.50 to this project.

In Willow Creek and Ironside District we have built bridges, graveled road from north to south. Vale District we built bridges, graveled school bus roads, and oiled 6.4 miles on Pothill Drive. Harper-Westfall District graded all roads, graveled most, built bridges and have 6 miles of oiled road with six more miles under survey. Juntura we graded, graveled and have worked all but about three miles in that district.

Now if any one in the County knows of any road I have not been on personally, I will thank them if they will come and tell me during my final 4 months in office.

I wish to mention the Lytle Blvd. of which more than half is in the Nyssa Road District. The County Court oiled and serviced 12 miles on the north end in the last five years, forcing the Nyssa Road Department's help on the first two miles on the south end.

I wish to repudiate the Gate City Journal statement, that I have been a Vale man in any sense of the word. Well do I know that Malheur County has never been so completely covered before by any County Court in the history of the County. I do not think Vale owes me a monument, any more than any other part of the County and I am quite sure the County, as a whole is not going to build one for me.

If my memory does not fail me I was only elected by a little

Airman from Nyssa Relates Engaging Travelogue of Europe Vacation Trip

(Following is the second installment of an interesting narrative containing the account of a vacation journey through Spain and southern France recently taken by the author, Staff Sergeant James W. Rigney of the Air Force and his family. Concluding portion of the story will be published next week.)

As we lost elevation and more level countryside began to ease the sharp jutting horizons, the wonders of medieval France began to unfold ahead of and below us. It seemed at first, much as a travel film seems as we swiftly dropped lower and lower, winding in and out of tunnels, over ancient bridges

and then slowly through the many small villages. Like a travel film, yes, except that these sights for us were accompanied by the conversations, the tastes of the food, the sounds of the countryside and towns and most of all, by the supreme exhilaration of just being suddenly transported into a land that had not changed significantly since the middle ages.

Rock houses, built so long ago that even the residents don't remember, hand harvesting of grain and cereals, thatched and grey-black ancient roofs with the dignity of generations about them as they sheltered people below and storks above.

Land Conquered Long Ago

From village to village we munched on long, very long, crusty loaves of French bread, fluffy pastries that did the finest justice to their name and an even finer justice to our Spam and bean weary stomachs. These delights we sampled as we drove much more slowly through the land that

over half of the voters of the County, in the first place. I wish to state I do not claim all the credit, nor I do not want all the honor, but we have done what we thought best for all of Malheur County and all we believe possible with the funds we have had to work with. I have enjoyed it all but I have had enough.

Yours truly,
G. Y. CHESTER
County Judge

ATTENTION, LEGIONNAIRES:

During the American Legion convention at Seaside, two speakers mentioned there was a high school graduate who refused an American Legion award because he did not believe in the principles of that organization.

Perhaps he never had a chance to learn what the principles of the American Legion are supposed to be. Maybe he observed the fruits of some Legionnaires who were not living up to those principles, or else they were keeping their light under a bushel.

Would that every Legion member should make sure that he knows what those principles are, and let his light so shine that high school graduates may see the good works.

When a small group of Legion members nominated me as their commander, I promised that I wouldn't do anything but attend meetings. If they wanted anything done, they would have to do it, and I hereby declare that I will not promise to do anything but attend meetings and help conduct any such business sessions that the members of post No. 79 of Nyssa may direct.

I am passing the buck. If you wish to pass it back, please make it in dollars and your own common sense. Come to the meetings and bring your ideas for the good of the community, state and nation.

The American Legion must have your financial and moral support in order to carry out the programs, bring before the people what the principles of the Legion are supposed to be.

There will be an important meeting tonight at 8 o'clock in the community hall. Be sure and come.

C. M. POUNDS

golden flash of sunlight from the trumpets themselves as the Centurion led his picked guards into the great sandy enclosure. The marble columns and great carved figures again shown in the bright daylight reflections and the niches for flagpoles that were hewn into the topmost ramparts again seemed filled with the banners and pennants of the great spectacle.

Arena Still Used Today

Fifteen hundred years ago this giant monument of Roman arches and tunnels was built, and now with its dark winding steps worn smooth and slippery with the passage of countless numbers of strangely clad feet, it is still in very active use for bullfights, circuses, ice shows and whatever events that require large space for performance. Astute builders indeed were those Romans, and small wonder that their skill and near perfection carried and maintained their fabulous empire over most of the then-existent world.

In reality, a proper and just description of the grandeur and stateliness of this timeless mark of Roman antiquity would necessitate many more words, but I shall move on, with your patience, Nyssa readers, upon recalling my realization at that time of the insignificance of some of our frail modern attempts at lasting beauty.

I was almost forced to a mental comparison of this nature and was further led to question whether we of the twentieth century have learned well enough the lessons taught so diligently by the ancient ones. But... time moves on and so did the green little car with its load of Rigney gypsies.

Visit Other Examples of Art

We enjoyed to the utmost our frequent stops at cathedrals, mu-

EASTERN STAR LUNCHEON MEETING SLATED TUESDAY

Members of Golden Rule chapter of Eastern Star will meet at the Masonic hall Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 6:30 p.m. for a covered dish luncheon.

Immediately following the dinner hour, there will be a school of instruction conducted by Mrs. Virginia Wright, grand associate conductress.

seums, Gothic and Roman ruins and many, many traces of still splendid Greek art and culture carried there to southern France again by the Romans.

At one archeological museum, we viewed with complete awe and wonderment, scenes of the Christian crucifixion, carved from solid rock by peoples who lived and believed in Christianity when it meant death if they were discovered doing so. These figures and the action portrayals were quite stilted, somewhat out of proportion and very worn by the centuries, but we could view easily the struggle and labor that attended the primitive artists in their efforts to preserve and enhance their beliefs for centuries to come.

Bring to mind, readers, the scenes you have seen of prehistoric gods and goddesses with the strange facial expressions and almost animal-like countenances and recall the weirdness of dress and artifacts. These most antique carvings of Christ and the early believers were of the same general nature, one even depicting an even much older scene of a strange little baby, hands bound, apparently being offered by King Solomon to the two mothers for the fabled cutting into two parts. (Concluded Next Week)

The Truth About Recaps!

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2. There are several different THICKNESSES of rubber used in recapping tires.
3. OLD casings and REPAIRED casings are often recapped... both are unsafe.
4. The FIRST HALF of the tread depth gives approximately 75% of the wear in any tire, so if the tread is 2-32 of an inch deeper, it stands to reason that it will give a lot more service.

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