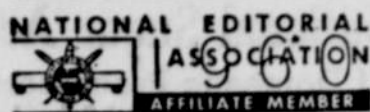


THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

TED M. BRAMMER, Editor and Publisher



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Birthdays Observed
At Methodist Dinner
Held Columbus Day

United Nations was the theme used at an Oct. 12 fellowship dinner held in the Methodist church dining hall. Approximately 30 families were represented and guests with birthdays in August, September and October were honored. Hostesses were the Mmes. Orland Cheldelin, Dale Osborne and Boyd Wilson.

Floral decorations were by Mrs. Cheldelin. Gracing the head table was a red, white and blue arrangement of flowers and a four-tiered cake, bearing a large single candle. Dolls of various nations centered the other tables.

Guests with anniversaries were Mrs. W. W. Foster, Mrs. David Beers, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Wilson, Mary Lu Wilson, Don Wilson, Mrs. George Coleman, Harlan Sager, Mrs. Nellie Erwin, Mrs. Merrilean Robbins, Sherrill Jean Robbins, Mrs. Russell Gressley, Nancy Wilson, Miss Myrtle Ilett, Jimmie Fox and Larry Wilson.

Program director was Mrs. Robbins, with the Rev. Paul Ludlow acting as master of ceremonies. Group singing preceded a piano solo by Sherrill Jean Robbins and saxophone solo by Roger Maulding, accompanied by Patty Michaelson.

Miss Marilyn Pratt, guest speaker who visited the United Nations assembly this summer, told of the work of committees which strive to bring about unity for all countries.

A humorous skit was presented depicting landing of Columbus

National
NEWSPAPER WEEKNyssa Ladies Attend
Ontario WSCS Meet

Several members of Nyssa Methodist WSCS attended a meeting held at the Methodist church in Ontario Oct. 12. Mrs. W. B. Landrum of Little Rock, Ark., was guest speaker. Mrs. Landrum, field worker of the board of missions, discussed the phases of woman's society and how to improve and make it a thriving group representative of a church.

Mrs. Bud Sappe, accompanied by Mrs. Kinsey Keever, presented two vocal numbers.

Other Nyssa ladies attending were Mmes. David Beers, Nellie Erwin, W. W. Foster, Paul Ludlow, Lloyd Tobler, Maurice Corey, Jesse Elgan and Raymond Sager.

A social hour followed at the close of the session.

and interruption of the Indian's peaceful life.

A special song was dedicated by KSRV radio station to the group on Thursday, as requested by Miss Ilett.

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.

Coquille, Oregon
October 10, 1960

Gate City Journal
Nyssa, Oregon

Recent newspaper accounts of speeches by the opponent of Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton for the office of attorney general have indicated a strong criticism of Thornton's conduct of the so-called Portland vice trials.

It's time, I think, to set the record straight.

I, along with Elliott Cummins of McMinnville, prosecuted Portland Mayor Terry Schunk on behalf of the Oregon attorney general's office. Both of us were ex-district attorneys engaged in private practice. Elliott had previously successfully convicted Portland District Attorney William Langley, as a result of the investigation; a conviction which, incidentally, was sustained by both the Oregon and United States Supreme courts.

Bob Thornton could not have made a better choice of a prosecutor than Elliott Cummins as Elliott's record as a district attorney at McMinnville will clearly indicate. We both carefully prepared the case for 10 weeks prior to the trial.

To answer Thornton's opponent we need to go back a bit to the conditions of that time and the pulse of the public in Multnomah county. The so-called vice in Portland was sparked by the McClellan committee which had little or no real evidence, only suspicion. Thereafter, the two large Portland dailies commenced a feud which is probably unparalleled in Oregon newspaper history.

It became a situation where the reading public couldn't begin to decide, for example, whether Jim Elkins was a sinner or a saint.

It should be first remembered that under Oregon law the attorney general has no power of prosecution in such cases unless ordered to do so by the governor. Thornton was so ordered and participated personally in the initial grand jury investigations. He called to his assistance, among others, such persons as Robert Davis, presently a former circuit judge and previously one of the most able district attorneys the state of Oregon has ever known. This work directly resulted in the conviction of William Langley, the Portland district attorney. Thereafter, two assistant attorney generals were assigned to the time consuming work with the Portland grand jury.

For reasons probably known best to themselves, this immediately resulted in the "bushel-basket" of indictments to which Bob's opponent has referred. During these days it was difficult to walk into the Multnomah court house to record a deed without getting indicted for one thing or another. This was through no fault of Bob Thornton. Under orders from the governor he was saddled with the prosecution of these myriad indictments. His opponent can speak of the cost involved, but what criminal case can be prosecuted without cost? The tenor of the times and the feeling of the people in the Portland area be-

cause of the newspaper feud made a conviction almost impossible no matter how well a case was prepared.

I have for the past two years been chairman of the Oregon State Bar committee on criminal law and procedure. This prejudging of criminal trials by the press has been a grave cause of concern to the committee. Early this spring we of the committee met with the editors of both Portland dailies together with the president and secretary of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers' association, as well as with other editors and publishers from this state. The problem was recognized by all.

As a result, I was asked to address the newspaper publishers' association at Seaside, Oregon, in July of this year; an invitation which I gladly accepted. My talk to them was, of course, controversial but, nonetheless, the newspaper association, recognizing the problem, appointed a committee to work with the bar association in order to iron out this difficulty between newspapers, the bench and the bar.

The Criminal Law committee has recommended to the Board of Bar Governors of the State Bar association that a companion committee of the bar be created and I anticipate that this will be done in an effort to prevent such past occurrences, although without an attempt to throttle freedom of the press.

I am certain that the newspaper association in forming their committee had in mind the constitutional guarantee of the right of freedom of trial as well as the guarantee of freedom of the press. They are to be commended, but it should be well apparent that during the Portland vice trials such was not the case and, further, that Bob Thornton cannot be called to task for the utter and complete confusion with which newspaper reporting beclouded the public mind and the minds of the jurors who sat on the various cases.

It is to be remembered, also, that Thornton went to the Oregon

Adrian Catholic Hall
Under Construction
By Local Contractor

Construction of a hall is under way in Adrian which will serve a dual purpose: to be used as an oratory for offering of the holy sacrifice of mass on Sundays and during the week as classrooms for religious instruction.

The 24- by 50-foot structure is being constructed of pumice block under supervision of W. D. Holcomb of Nyssa.

Interior of the hall will be equipped with two folding doors so that it can be converted quickly into three separate rooms.

The building is expected to be completed and ready for use by the end of October.

Adrian is part of St. Bridget's

Bar association with a request that they recommend a list of attorneys throughout the state capable of adequately prosecuting the indictments. This was refused. He then sought help from prosecutors who were known to have excellent records for prosecution.

Had these prosecutions been had outside of the Portland area, I feel certain that convictions would have resulted, but not in Multnomah county where the minds of jurors were confused and bewildered by equal claims of guilt and innocence from the two daily papers of that city.

Robert Y. Thornton, faced with a momentous task, and all alone, did everything that a brilliant and skilled attorney could do under the circumstances. Today, in private practice, Bob could probably realize three times the sum that the state of Oregon pays him, but he chooses otherwise as a dedicated public servant as, indeed, he has been since he first took office.

All I ask is that we keep the record straight. At the time of which his opponent speaks, I was there; he was not.

JOHN J. PICKETT
Attorney
Coquille, Oregon

Mrs. W. W. Foster
To Attend Seminar
In New York City

Mrs. W. W. Foster left Tuesday night on the Streamliner for Denver where she will spend two days with her granddaughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hummels, nee Letha Sager. Mrs. Hummels is teaching at Littleton, Colo.

Mrs. Foster has been selected to represent the western district of Idaho conference of Methodist Women's Society of Christian Service at a seminar in New York City.

She is one of six women chosen from six states in the western jurisdiction. The seminar is under the department of Christian social relations and discussion will be on the subject, "The Fam-

Methodist Members
Plan Week of Prayer,
List Circle Meetings

Women's Society of Christian Service circle members will meet today at 2 p.m. as follows:

Marlene Harmon circle will meet at the home of Mrs. Leroy Herrman. Mrs. Russell Gressley will be hostess to members of the Iris Bell circle. Jessie Lee circle members will meet with Mrs. Gene Honey in Apple Valley and members of Celia Cowan circle will meet at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Cyrus Bock.

Week of prayer and self-denial is Oct. 25-31. A program is being planned for Oct. 26 at 2 p.m. in the church parlor. Mrs. Bill Wilson, secretary of spiritual life, is chairman of the hour of prayer and invites all women of the church and friends to attend.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to express my thanks to friends and relatives for flowers, cards and visits when I was in the hospital and since I have been home. Also thanks to the Rev. John Briehl for his visits and prayers and to the hospital staff for the good care I received.

—Mrs. Bill Schoen.

ily in a World of Rapid Social Change."

Mrs. Foster will receive an all-expense paid trip, will take United Airlines to and from Denver and New York, returning in two weeks.

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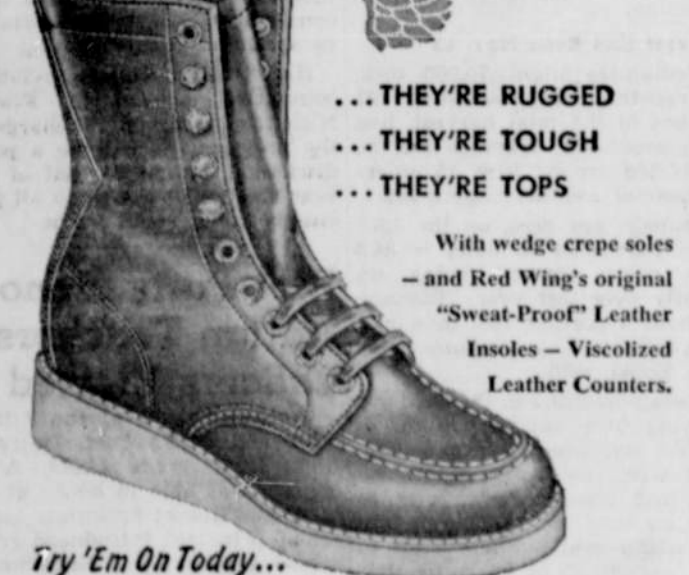
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