

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

TED M. BRAMMER, Editor and Publisher



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Owyhee Dam Makes Desert Bloom

By DON ARAI

Ever been to the Hawaii dam? You probably have, but chances are you called it the Owyhee. The dam, third highest in the world when constructed, derives its name from the Owyhee river, the phonetic spelling of Hawaii. The river was originally named the Hawaii by Hawaiian trappers of the Hudson Bay company who were early visitors to the area.



OWYHEE DAM
... 315 Feet Above River Bed

Today the man-made lake irrigates 105,016 acres of the fertile, productive land that surrounds Nyssa, Vale, Ontario and Adrian. Farmers in the area were paid about \$17,100,000 for crops grown last year. Costing about \$5,627,000, the Owyhee dam is the main key to the prosperity of the people living in the project.

True, there were several pumping plants on the Owyhee and Snake rivers before the building of the dam, but most of these were consolidated with the project when it was completed. An example is the Kingman Kolony pumping station. The main problem with the plants is that they are relatively expensive to operate and can cover only limited acreage.

Construction began on the U. S. Reclamation service dam in 1928. By 1933 the dam, which stands 315 feet above the original level of the river bed, was completed. When filled the reservoir stretches back for 53 miles.

Water in the lake and stream is warm because of various hot springs which add their waters to the flow. The high temperature of the lake (it varies from 41 to 49 degrees Fahrenheit) makes it impossible for trout to live in the lake.

Native to the stream are trash fish—suckers and carp. No one is sure when crappies and bass were introduced or who brought them into the area, but these fish have multiplied so rapidly that anglers find fishing excellent when the waters are low.

Reaching the lowest level since the original filling of the reservoir, storage dropped to 30,148 acre feet last fall. At last report, 387,520 feet of usable storage was being held back by the mass of concrete at the site known as "Hole-in-the-Ground."

This site, practically designed for a dam, was formed in a unique manner. According to geologists, the spot is the mouth of an old volcano that has been split by an earth tremor. The river runs down the split. This would explain the narrow space between the walls of the canyon and the hardness of the canyon walls.

One site proposed as a damsite during the time that the "Hole-in-the-Ground" was being selected was Duncan's Ferry. This, along with another upstream choice, Three Forks (where three branches of the Owyhee river meet), is now being considered as the site of a new dam to store additional water to counterbalance dry years such as last year.

Education System Vital Enterprise

By PAT WRIGHT

Directly serving around 1300 people daily and boasting a yearly operating expense of upwards to \$690,000, Nyssa's school system is big business—the second largest enterprise in our city. Most of us will agree that education is the basis of modern society, the means by which we pass on to our young the tools of our culture. And yet how many of us, as adults, are really familiar with the workings of our own schools in our own town?

In the first place, a school system embraces a larger variety of educational facilities than the average citizen—or for that matter, the average student—realizes. Our children are provided with a primary school, an elementary school, a junior high and a high school. These basic educational facilities are supplemented by a classroom for retarded children at Arcadia; a transition room for first graders who are not ready for promotion but are too promising to be held back; a special education program for youngsters with hearing, reading and similar problems; and a new and comprehensive guidance program in the senior high school.

These are some of the "extras" that make our schools exceptional. Under the able and dedicated direction of Supt. Walter L. McPartland and the school board, Nyssa has developed a series of educational facilities worthy of our pride and support.

Education in our system, however, goes further than formal training in adequate buildings! It attempts not only to develop the intellectual potentialities of a child, but also to stimulate and provide for his growth as an individual personality. In the elementary school, such activities as small-scale baseball tournaments are stressed, providing youngsters with invaluable athletic and emotional benefits. On the junior high level, a strong athletic schedule is maintained, and students find their creativity and cultural understanding challenged in such required courses as chorus, crafts, arts and public speaking.

The general public is probably most familiar with character-building activities on the high school level. The NHS athletic program is supervised by Principal Gene Chester and a group of qualified coaches who feel that the primary objective of a high school sport is not neces-

'Patrolmen of the Week'



THESE TWO young ladies, students in the sixth grade room of Elvin Ballou, tied last week for "Patrolman of the Week" honors. They are Lucille Bertram, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Bertram of route 1, Nyssa, and Marie Durfee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Durfee of route 2, Nyssa. An outstanding patrolman is named each week by Nyssa Police department and Nyssa grade school. They are chosen on school patrol ability, personality and scholastic record.

—Staff Photo.

Methodist Circles Hold Tuesday Meetings

Methodist Women's Society of Christian Service circles met last week. Evelyn DeVries members met in the church parlor Tuesday morning. Mrs. Robert Blazer led devotions and presented the program. Mmes. Cyrus Bock and Arie Bakker were hostesses for four members and three guests in attendance. In May this group will return to regular evening meeting date.

Barbara Firl circle met with Mrs. Eugene Butzer with six members and two guests present. Mrs. Harriet Pennie led devotions and Mrs. Leroy Herrman presented the program. Mrs. Maurice Corey was co-hostess and also conducted the business session.

Thirteen Frances Major members and one guest met with Mrs. W. W. Foster. Mrs. R. H. Martin led devotions and Mrs. Roy Knoedler was in charge of the program. Mrs. Orland Cheldelin was co-hostess.

Helen Barnes circle members were guests in the home of Mrs. Richard Harris at Cairo junction with her mother, Mrs. Earl Boston, as hostess. Thirteen members and four guests were present to hear devotions by Mrs. H. Springfield and program by Mrs. Waldo Smalley.

Routine business was discussed in all circles. Devotional and program material used were the Easter theme, Methodist Woman, Christian Herald and society program book.

Owyhee Community Church News

According to the Rev. Arthur Skogan, the Owyhee Community church was well represented at Easter Sunrise services sponsored by Nyssa Ministerial association.

We-2 group of Owyhee Community church will meet Friday evening, April 27, at 8 o'clock in the Eugene Stephen home.

sarily to chalk up a winning streak but to teach boys healthy attitudes, habits and physical fitness. The emphasis is as it should be, not on sports but on sportsmanship. Nyssa high, incidentally, was the only high school in Oregon this year to receive the OAHPER for a distinguished health and physical education program. Students also have an opportunity to develop their interests in such fields as journalism, music, student government, dramatics, etc.

Nyssa high's curriculum is worth commenting on, slanted as it is to reach the needs, interests and capabilities of as many students as possible. The English department, with a college-level English course for advanced seniors, four years of English for all students and a course in journalism, is one of the outstanding departments of the school. The NHS music department is also remarkable in its quality, having won top honors for the school in countless competitions. For the student interested in vocational training, the curriculum offers classes in agriculture, industrial arts and automotive. These are just a few examples of the wide variety of courses available to the interested student.

In short, Nyssa is a good place to raise children, if only for the educational opportunities that are open to them here. From first grade through twelfth, a child is treated with the respect and interest that is inherent in the attitudes of dedicated people toward those they serve.

"We must remember that schools are in existence only for one reason," emphasizes Supt. McPartland, "the giving of tools to each individual child. We, as teachers, must never lose sight of that."

And it might be added, neither must the public. Only with public support and enthusiasm were good schools achieved; apathy and disinterest on the part of the people are the quick road to a standstill and a state of stagnation, rather than the growth which we have experienced. Schools are undoubtedly essential and they are only as good as the communities they serve.

FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS

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BOB THOMPSON INSURANCE AGENCY

104 Main Street Phone 372-3355
Nyssa, Oregon

Verne Flock Speaks To Local Methodists On Juvenile Problems

Verne Flock, county juvenile officer, spoke on problems of dependency and delinquency at the April 16 dinner meeting of Nyssa Methodist men.

He defined a dependent as one who comes before the juvenile court by actions of others, through desertion, death or maltreatment. A delinquent comes to the court because of his own anti-social actions either by breaking the law or by becoming unmanageable. Malheur county has both problems, the juvenile officer added.

Flock, who is in his first year with the juvenile court, pointed out that youth today are no worse than in previous generations even though the rate of delinquency is increasing four times as rapidly as the rate of population growth.

Reasons for the increase given by the county officer were that people are living closer together, fast cars permit youth an easy escape from authority, family life is weakening and youth have too much leisure. The juvenile officer said he believed the farm is still the best environment for children.

He urged a more active interest in the juvenile program of providing foster homes for dependent children and county farms for delinquent youth.

Accompanied by Mrs. Robert Q. Smith, Mike Off presented musical numbers on the trombone and tuba.

During election of officers for the men's group, Cliff Fox was named president; Gene Chester, vice president; Ward Wieneke, secretary-treasurer.

The Monday evening dinner was prepared and served by members of the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

Next activity of the men's club is a meeting May 3 of Treasure Valley Methodist men in Caldwell.

'HUNGRY GERM CHASERS' ORGANIZE IN FIFTH GRADE

The Hungry Germ Chasers are on the prowl!

Let the Journal hasten to add, however, that the invading force, made up of all members of Jeff Ford's fifth grade class, has a glint in its collective eye only for health problems—not for humans. The Chasers have held four meetings on their current 4-H health project. The group chose for its leaders Kay Abe, president; Brenda McKinney, vice president; Merla Ashby, song leader; and Cindy Price, reporter.

The first meeting was for organization. The theme of the second was care of the skin and hair. Next was on proper food, while the last meeting was concerned with dental problems.

In presenting material, members have done pantomimes, presented skits, viewed filmstrips and conducted a panel discussion.

To Buy, Sell, Rent or Rire, Try the Classified Page!

Disaster Area Residents Need Blankets, Clothing

Urgent appeals for blankets are coming in now to Church World Service, the relief and rehabilitation agency of major Protestant and Eastern Orthodox churches in America.

Nyssa Methodist church has been designated as the local station for leaving blankets and clothing to be taken by the Church World Service truck on May 7. As Nyssa is the starting point, it is necessary that May 4 be the deadline for receiving articles.

Blankets are needed by war victims, Chinese refugees, impoverished migrants and thousands of others in 25 countries around the world. Wearing apparel including shoes for all ages is also needed.

Church World Service warehouses are low on blankets because of recent donations to hurricane survivors and Cuban refugees.

"A Blanket and a Quarter" is the campaign slogan for a drive for one million pounds of blankets. Contributions by churches in this area are sent to the center at 919 Emerald avenue in Modesto, Calif.

Dan Pennie to Speak At Sunday Service In Christian Church

Dan Pennie, a student at Northwest Christian college in Eugene, will be guest speaker Sunday, April 29, in the Nyssa Christian church.

April 29 is known as Christian Higher Education day and most churches, in some way, endeavor to emphasize Church Bible colleges. In the northwest, Christian churches observe this day by emphasizing the Christian church college in Eugene. Work and program of the college is lifted by the students and a special offering is taken for work in the institution.

Following the morning service, a potluck dinner will be held in the church basement for fellowship with the Pennie family. Some members plan to attend the fifth Sunday rally later in the afternoon in Ontario.

An invitation is extended to the public to attend this Sunday service and potluck dinner.

Sunday visitors at the homes of Boise relatives, Vincent and Ernie Towne, were Mr. and Mrs. Herman Towne of Nyssa.

PLUMBING and HEATING

Irvin Zimmerman
PARMA-4-2981

United Church Ladies Meet Friday, May 4

United Church Women of the Nyssa-Adrian area will meet for their May Fellowship day covered dish luncheon Friday, May 4, at 1 p.m. in the Methodist church social hall, with ladies of that church as hostesses.

Under the chairmanship of Mrs. E. A. Liming, the program will be held in the sanctuary at 2 o'clock. Committee members are Mmes. Irvin Topliff, Earl Bingham, Bernard Eastman, Rolland Laurance and Wilbur Anderson.

The Rev. Wallace Powell, Christian church minister, will be the speaker, telling of his migrant ministry work. Theme for the day is "One Family Under God: Who Is My Family?" Special musical numbers and nursery will be provided.

Clothing and blankets in suitable containers for shipping on the Church World Service truck must be brought that day.

Your Invitation To Attend a REVIVAL



The Rev. Albert
NEUSCHWANGER
EVANGELIST

8:00 Each Evening
(Except Saturday)

April 25—May 6

—at the—

NYSSA NAZARENE CHURCH

Corner Fifth and Good

SING WITH
Elvin Bartholamew
SONG EVANGELIST

OMAR BARNHOUSE, Pastor

Opening
Tuesday, May 1...

HOWARD'S

ALL NEW

Texaco Station

And Radiator Shop

—at—

FOURTH and MAIN... NYSSA, OREGON

Howard Myrick is leaving his present location at Nyssa Chevron Station and wishes to thank all customers for their past patronage... He extends a personal invitation to all old patrons and new friends to drop in at the Fourth and Main site so he may serve them in the future.

WATCH FOR OUR GRAND OPENING!

HOWARD and MAX