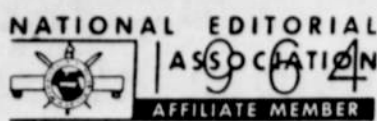


THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

TED M. BRAMMER, Editor and Publisher



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LETTERS TO THE 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 necessarily signify agreement of this newspaper with opinions expressed.

Nyssa, Oregon
March 30, 1964

Dear Editor,

During the past week I have talked to teachers, parents and a few students; even three senior citizens, two of them former teachers, who expressed interesting opinions on modern education.

Of one thing I am certain, we all have problems and they are pretty much the same. What is the answer? I think a step in the right direction would be for both parents and school personnel to say, "Even if everyone else is doing it, we are not going to." We must dare to be different.

Frequently, during these conversations, I asked a parent if he or she has voiced opinions or discussed a situation with a teacher. I have even suggested that they write a letter to the editor. Almost everyone replied, "Oh, I couldn't do that" or "I promised Junior I wouldn't say anything." This is the wrong attitude.

If something is important to you, contact the teacher, principal or superintendent. I don't suggest taking up their time with every little thing but sometimes a few minutes will settle a big question. If, as some suggested, a teacher takes it out on your child, yell long and loud!

An interesting thing brought out by some of the students and mentioned by a few mothers was the disappointment freshmen feel in the high school dances. Several years ago Mr. McPartland started a plan in junior high. The students planning to attend a dance sign up ahead of time and a committee makes out programs so that everyone dances every dance.

A few are left open for boys' choice, girls' choice, mixers, etc. Couldn't this plan be carried on into high school—first with freshmen and then sophomores and freshmen? I think more students would have more fun.

There have been many comments from many parents about many things but in almost every instance they said, "Our children are too busy." As one mother put it, "We have too little to say and too little time in which to say it in the molding of our children." "I feel cheated." Another parent said, "There is too much organized activity, too much supervision, no chance for children to develop their own initiative." Children need to be able to spend time by themselves. They must learn not to be bored.

Parents who called me were definite about two things: They

It the Farmer A Scapegoat?

Dear Editor and
To Whom It May Concern:

A column in the last Gate City Journal suggests that we farmers are to be made the scapegoat again by the formation of a fire district out of Adrian.

It was only a few years ago that a "brain trust" at Adrian tried to organize a fire district there and it was turned down by a petition of objection from the farmers. Do these socialistic "district" promoters think the attitude and judgment of the farmers has changed since their last objection to a fire district?

My guess is that the farmers are not in favor of any more district making, especially if they have to foot most of the bill and get little or no benefit. The outlying farms in such a proposed fire district could not expect to get any benefit because of the mileage involved.

Farm buildings could burn to the ground before a fire truck arrived. It is my guess that a good fire insurance policy for a farmer's property is far more satisfactory and less expensive. A fire truck is no insurance for a half burned-out building.

My guess is that Adrian needs fire protection and should have it. Why don't Adrian residents furnish their own fire truck and let the farmers buy insurance or use their own water or fire prevention?

Well, Mr. Farmer, you had better get off that tractor long enough to go to the Adrian grade school to vote, to settle this issue on the 20th day of April 1964. Let's beat the tax promoters again.

Sincerely,
A. D. MOSES

want their children home earlier and they do not want practice on holidays. It seems that coaches ask if this will interfere with family plans and the students will not say that it will and do not want the parents to say that it will. It probably will interfere with most families and obviously did with several!

Mr. McPartland told me that the activity bus is supposed to leave the school at 5:30. The very latest your child should get home would be 6:30. The children in town would be home at least by 6:00. Most of the other schools in the valley have athletic practice during sixth period, making it possible for the students to be home earlier. I do not know that this is the solution. I suppose it depends on the student.

Teachers are dedicated people and this is good but sometimes other things are more important. Most of the people who called said they felt school affairs should

Writer Sees Farmers Carrying Tax Burden

Citizens of Nyssa,
Town and Country:

Will you please read First Kings, 12th chapter and CAREFULLY read verse 18 of this chapter?

I quote from verse 18. "Then King Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the tribute; and all Israel stoned him with stones, that he died."

When you read chapter 12, you will see that the people were heavily burdened with taxes, that the heaviest burden was on the shoulders of the small farmer. The men who worked very hard and long hours paid the most taxes according to their earnings and it soon taxed them out of working the land and turned them toward a new profession—beggars.

Middle Class Attacks Collectors

Now why did they kill the tax

collector to Friday nights. Unfortunately, there is only one per week. The basketball team played 23 games. There are 18 varsity baseball games scheduled besides track and all the other activities. I doubt that many students can do justice to their school work with this busy schedule.

Mr. McPartland explained to me that in order to compete in the SRV conference this many games are necessary. If we dropped into a smaller league, we would need to travel farther to compete, making it more expensive and time consuming. We have several schools in our area that are more our size but they are in Idaho. We could play these schools that are close and stand a better chance of winning than we do with the schools in the A-2 league but we would not be able to compete for state titles.

Some parents are of the opinion that the Pep club is compulsory. It is not. If your daughter has tired blood, is more interested in another organization or her grades are not up to par, she should not be allowed to join Pep club. Once she has joined she is obligated to attend the designated games and to wear the uniform decided on by the girls in the club. She must realize that some of the games will conflict with other things she wishes to attend.

One mother told me she thought the club had bolstered her daughter's school spirit but there were times when more important things had to be given up because of a game. Two mothers told me they were sorry that the boys and non-members of the club were no longer yelling with the leaders. Of course they are welcome to sit on the fringes and join in, but few do this.

Going back to sports, one bewildered mother had this to say, "Our family lives several miles from town on a farm too big for one person to operate and too small to warrant hiring a man to help. Our only son is active in sports and we are eager to have him participate." In fact they were so eager that his mother milked cows and did other chores to make it possible for him to take part in sports during the winter months.

This spring his father's health is poor and the son is needed on the farm. It was decided that he could be spared for one sport and he made his choice. Another coach needed him too and told the parents they should be more willing to make sacrifices for their son. As the mother said, "This was hard to take after milking cows all winter."

If the boy should decide to help his ill father now when he is needed, it would be a big step toward growing up and the acceptance of responsibility. This is truly a dilemma for a young boy. He is torn between loyalty to his parents and to one teacher or another.

I have been told by parents that a coach has told their son if he doesn't go out for a certain sport, he will flunk a subject. I cannot believe that any teacher interested in children would do this. If it has happened to your son, tell Mr. Chester immediately. The administrators do not condone this sort of thing.

An activity is worthwhile if it reaches one child when all else has failed. Every child should have the freedom to choose the activities he is most interested in, but it is the duty of the parents to limit their children according to each child's capability. Once a choice has been made, it is not right for other teachers to encourage participation in another project.

The result of this is that too many things are attempted and none of them done well. Soon a youngster feels that it is not necessary to do a good job, does not attend meetings, does not memorize his script, does not do justice to himself or his school-mates.

It follows that he is not doing justice to his employer, his family, his neighbor. Our schools and we parents are responsible for this community's most valuable commodity. Let us dare to be different.

Very truly yours,
MRS. W. K. WAHLERT

METHODIST GUILD LADIES PRESENT EASTER PROGRAM

Wesleyan Service Guild members met Tuesday evening of last week in the Methodist church parlor. Program was presented by Mrs. Leo Gonyer, Mrs. A. Chadwick, Mrs. Frances Bates with Mrs. Madge Thomson assisting with the music.

Theme was "The Cross and the Resurrection" with additional poems and a solo, "Were You There?" sung by Marian Anderson and the "Hallelujah Chorus." Mrs. Gonyer presided during the business meeting; Mrs. Ernie Metcalf and Mrs. C. A. Wernick were hostesses.

collector with stones? They had already made a plea for mercy and were ignored. They used stones, the only weapons they could afford. The government and the armies lived off the land, mostly. The people who attacked the tax collector were the middle class, for in that country were hordes of beggars and they were the lower class.

Our situation here today is similar and growing rapidly worse. If conditions continue to grow worse and worse as it is going, it will soon reach that stage.

Therefore, I will predict that in five years, blood will be shed in this country because of oppressive taxation. It is alarming today and couldn't get worse without serious trouble.

"Vote" Is Strong Weapon

However, a number of us have not made use of a strong weapon that we have—that is "The Right to Vote." Those people pleaded for some consideration, some relief, but really they had no voting power at all. Stones were their only means of defense and they used them. But here, many of us do not use the strong weapon that we have—"The Right to Vote."

Since last November we have heard many who own property complain of heavy taxes. It is very discouraging to try to own property and it certainly discourages business enterprise and also discourages home ownership.

It is impossible for a farmer to try to raise a crop that will pay these kind of taxes. The price of seed is very low, beef is certainly a losing proposition and the sugar beet growers are being forced to accept lower prices than in previous years. Raising either hay or grain does not pay the taxes. The farmers are at present very hard hit since taxes raised 55 percent since the year 1960-61, but prices of crops went down.

Yet many of you do not use the weapon you hold in your hand—"The Right to Vote."

Voting Takes Little Time

Now, fellow citizens, if you voted those taxes on yourself, you have no right to complain at all. But if you did not vote, it would take less time to do so than to try to sell your products for enough money to pay such high taxes.

Now look, very soon—in a few short months—we will have some

Passion Play Scenes Viewed by Methodists

Methodist Woman's Society of Christian Service circles met last Thursday. Lenora circle members were guests of Mrs. Ellis Walters and Mrs. Cecil Evans assisted as co-hostess. Mrs. Paul Ludlow presented the program including mission vignettes.

Mrs. Herke Stam presented the program for Fulton circle members when the group met at the home of Mrs. Russell Cochran with Mrs. Lloyd Tobler as co-hostess. Mrs. Stam showed colored slides of the Passion Play taken at Oberammergau in Bavaria as she read Bible selections as basis for the play.

It is reported that the realistic and inspirational scenes are rare-ly shown in this country and it was a privilege to view them. Mrs. Stam showed them to Lenora circle members later in the afternoon.

Helen Barns circle met with Mrs. Roy Rookstool in Apple Valley. Mrs. Waldo Smalley presented the program on "The Cross and the Resurrection."

A skit showing work done by funds from World Banks was given by several members at their respective meetings. About 45 ladies were in attendance at these woman's society meetings.

Forum on Family Life Begins Sunday Night In Caldwell Church

The Rev. Wallace Prowell has announced that evening services will not be held Sunday at the Christian church as the congregation plans to attend a family life conference in Caldwell. The forum is being sponsored by the Caldwell Ministerial association and is under leadership of Dr. Lawrence Bixler of Northwest Christian college in Eugene.

The meetings are being held in the Boone Memorial Presbyterian church and the Sunday evening sessions begin at 7 o'clock. Activities are being planned for all age groups with discussions based upon sound filmstrips.

Additional meetings are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday with events to begin at 8 a.m. Question and answer periods will follow all group discussions.

All area residents are welcome to attend this three-day conference.

elections coming up. Are you selling yourself into bondage? Or are you voting at all?

When you are pushed off your land because of high taxes, where will you go? Industry does not want you. The next step down is welfare and that is also crowded and it does not want you either. Give it a thought; take a good look. Dark clouds are on the horizon. The full force of the storm is yet to come.

One thing is certain. We simply cannot endure any raise in taxes; they are already much too high, considering the income.

—LOUISE HIGHT

Classifieds Bring Results!



Reddytorial

How Much Is \$765 Million?

It's a lot of money. For example, it's more than \$1,000 for every man, woman and child in Idaho. It's more than three years' total Idaho income from all agricultural crops.

It is enough money to provide for 15 years of Idaho state government general fund expenditures at the current rate.

What is it? It is the estimated amount of taxes which Bonneville Power Administration should have paid through 1963 (they pay none whatsoever) if taxed on the same basis Idaho Power Company is taxed.

Currently, the Bonneville tax avoidance amounts to enough annually to defray all the costs of operating all the public schools in Idaho, including institutions of higher learning!

Think about it when you pay your taxes.

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

A TAX-PAYING CITIZEN WHEREVER IT SERVES

From This Corner...

By T. M. B.

Am unable to imagine the havoc wreaked by the earthquake that centered in Alaska this weekend. Have seen areas with property flattened by tornadoes as well as Nagasaki, Japan, after it had been hit by one of the atomic bombs in World War II—but they did not have the appearance of doing the property damage as shown by the pictures. Most areas were very fortunate that loss of life was so low.

Heard Gov. Rockefeller at the Monday breakfast in Ontario and know what they meant when someone said he "Leaned on the BROTHERHOOD of Man and the FATHERHOOD of God." He dealt in generalities that could have angered no one except the most rabid Democrat.

I had imagined that he was much larger physically than he is—brother Winthrop, who lives in my native Arkansas and may be a candidate for governor there this year, is 6 feet, three inches tall and rather big-boned.

You can expect to see taxes increase until the taxpayers revolt. Not in words but in votes against those who advocate everything that sounds appealing and who peddle the thought that as long as the federal and state governments furnish the major portion of the funds the money comes easy.

Next Tuesday the voters will have an opportunity to pass on the local junior college budget. This amount is only about \$148,000 to be raised by local taxes and is real small compared to the \$1 MILLION PLUS that makes up the total budget. The rest comes from state and federal sources (except a small part from students). Local school taxes will be up about 5 to 6 mills, based on the proposed budget—hospitals need a tax increase to survive—and with the unions proposing to ask for more money, living costs may rise to another all-time high.

When it gets to the point the taxpayer feels that he can no longer support all agencies he must make up his mind where he will start rejecting programs.

We are happy to have an increase in Letters to the Editor in recent weeks. This is a healthy situation and we will continue trying to print all of them. However, we may have to limit the length to do so.

**DID CHRIST
Build a Church;
If So, Which One
??
372-3318**

Had a letter from a local man offering to pay us \$5 if we would carry his item two times in the paper. We explained there was no charge but that we would carry it only once.

Others seem to believe that we agree with all letters printed or we would not let them appear. This is incorrect—we do welcome letters on both sides of controversial issues.

Our Nyssa water has been terribly tasting recently. It even carries over into the strongest coffee, and I can imagine it has an odor. Don't know the reason and doubt that the city authorities do as yet. Must have something to do with the new well.

In a Russian school a small boy told the teacher the reason he knew the first human beings were Russians was because, "They had no roof over their heads, no clothes to wear, only one apple for the two of them and they called it Paradise."

CLOSING THOUGHT...

You can avoid criticism by saying nothing, doing nothing and being nothing!

Final Services Held For Aunt of Nyssans

Funeral services for Kate Elizabeth Ward, 86, were conducted Tuesday in Boise. The deceased was an aunt of Mrs. Victor Marshall and Charles Share of the Owyhee community and had visited many times in the Nyssa area. She succumbed March 27 in a Boise hospital.

Mrs. Ward was born Feb. 14, 1878, at Reynolds Creek, Idaho, a daughter of Charles E. and Harriet Share who operated a stage service at Reynolds Creek.



We are having a Loyalty emphasis in our Sunday school. When we think of the Lord, we cannot help but say, "Great is Thy faithfulness." Join us in our expression of loyalty, a joyous, happy response to all of God's goodness. As the Psalmist said, "It is a good thing...to sing praises unto thy name." You'll enjoy our Sunday school. Come and see!

Assembly of God

Second St. and Reece Ave.
Nyssa, Oregon