

**THE GATE CITY JOURNAL**

TED M. BRAMMER, Editor and Publisher



**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

Single Copies 10c  
 In Malheur County, Oregon, and Payette and Canyon Counties, Idaho:  
 One Year \$4.00  
 Six Months \$2.75  
 Elsewhere in the U. S. A.:  
 Per Year \$5.00  
 Six Months \$3.00

Published Every Thursday at Nyssa, Malheur County, Oregon

Entered at the Post Office at Nyssa, Oregon, for Transmission Through the United States Mails, as a Second Class Matter Under the Act of March 3, 1879.

**Is Anyone Honest?**

A recent program televised over a Boise station has made us sincerely doubt it! Most of us can ignore the truth, tell a "White Lie" to spare the feelings of a friend or customer, or pretend something to be true when we know otherwise.

We are reminded of it all over again by a letter appearing on this same page of the Journal. It took courage for Dellin Erickson to write it, criticizing his fellow Ontarians and the publications there for their part in an effort to secure tax funds (federal) to make improvements to benefit a group of downtown merchants in protecting their investments under the guise of a "Beautification Program."

Not only have the businessmen sold themselves on the idea that taxpayers should subsidize them by paying part of the cost of their improvement program designed to retain, or regain, their business lost to shopping centers and other towns. They have also sold the Ontario City Council on the idea of having the city superintendent go "hat in hand" to the Housing and Home Finance agency for a grant for half the \$290,000 estimated cost.

Do you believe that the four blocks of South Oregon street between Idaho and Southwest Fourth streets are slum districts that need urban renewal? Do you believe that the majority of the 80 business lots are owned by people unable to make their own improvements? Do you think it fair for the people who have built their businesses in the shopping center, to gain adequate space and parking areas, at their own expense, to have to pay for modern improvements to benefit their competitors, by paying part of the federal money used in the subsidy? Or for the other towns that might gain business did this section of Ontario not modernize?

(Nyssa merchants have a downtown improvement plan on a small scale but they are paying for it themselves — and so did the people of Grand Junction, Colo., after which the Ontario group is patterning.)

We know how easy it is for a newspaper editor to get the feeling he is fighting government-takeover all alone. And we know how easy it is to shut the eyes to something we don't exactly approve of in the hometown. But should we be casting stones on other towns for lesser things as was done by the Ontario paper in the Monday edition in criticizing Caldwell for an effort to abolish obscene literature? Their police methods may be wrong but we cannot find fault with the idea. Weiser also has a plan, approved by the city council, to try to do something about the same problem.

Here's hoping we may have many more Ericksons with the courage to put their thinking in words when they observe what they think is an unfair situation.

**LETTERS To the Editor**

**Writer Protests Use Of Federal Money For Ontario Project**

February 9, 1966

The Editor  
 Gate City Journal  
 Nyssa, Oregon

Dear Sir:  
 I have been reading for some time with a great deal of interest about the Ontario mayor's "Downtown Study Committee." It has been interesting to note that they are interested in beautifying the downtown section of the city. It is commendable that some of them went to see the plan used by the city of Grand Junction.

They even have a proposed plan for Ontario that appeared in a local publication and it looks good. It resembles somewhat the plan used by Grand Junction. They also have an estimate as to what it will cost and I think the downtown section of town should go ahead with this plan if they like it and think they can afford it and that it will eventually bring them enough business to offset what they have lost or think they will lose to the shopping centers or other competition wherever it may be.

**Seek Federal Assistance**

Almost every article that has been published about this project by the local publications has stated without blushing and as if it were the proper thing, "That half of the cost could possibly come from the federal government." These same articles infer that the people who want this improvement do not want to pay all this cost themselves.

I think that everybody knows that the federal government is us and that no government has any money to give to anyone lest they first take it away from someone and that someone is us, and no dollar comes back from Washington as big as it was when it left us.

I'm getting tired of paying taxes to take care of everybody's pet project all over the country. Oh sure, I know that many will be very critical of me and say I have no community spirit, no desire for improvement, that I am selfish, that I am thinking of myself and not the people who could enjoy this added beauty.

**Old Socialism Cry**

This is the old cry from the followers of Fabian Socialism. "Do it for and in the name of the people; they are too dumb to know what is best for themselves anyway. Take it away from whom we will but get it accomplished."

Yes, I know the old cry, "If we don't get it someone else will." Charity begins at home and if we don't start here and try to put a stop to this continual raid on the federal treasury, we will spend ourselves into slavery and if you don't believe debt is slavery, try it sometime.

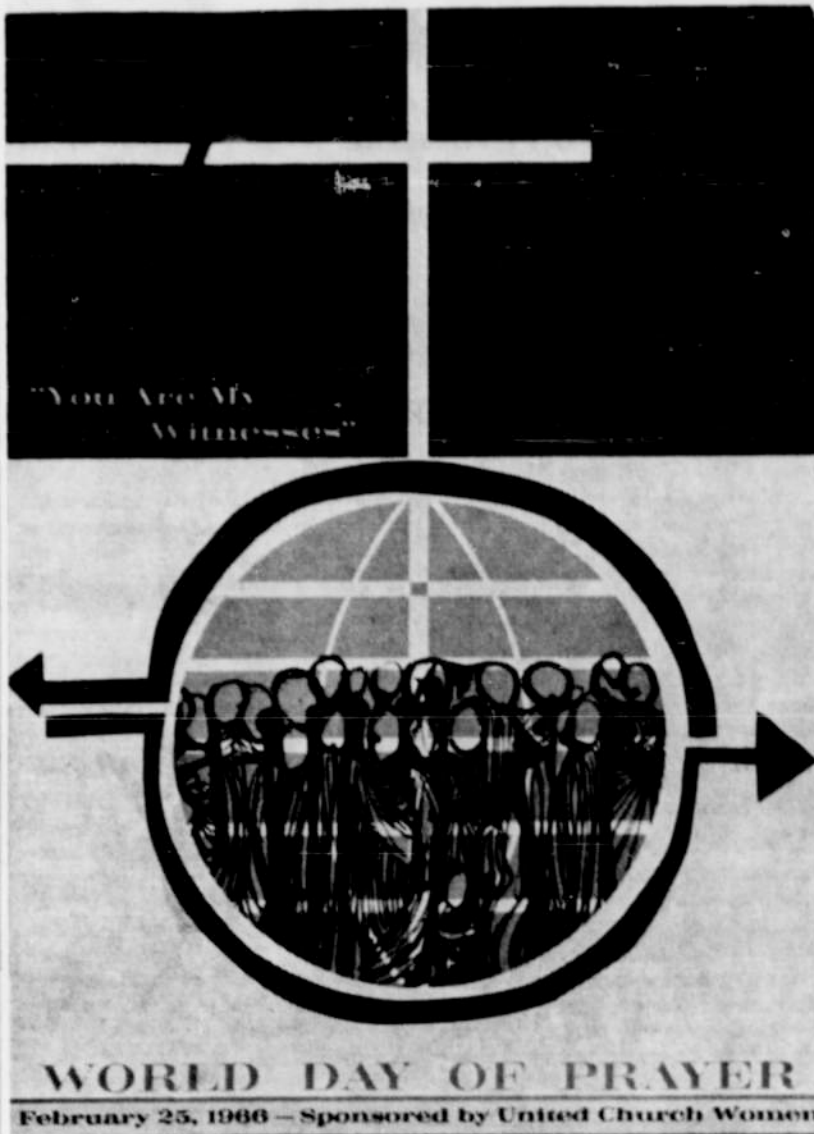
Every time the local papers have mentioned getting half of this cost from the federal government, I've seen red; but I haven't heard a word from anyone in opposition to it. If I'm alone in this feeling, I'll hold my peace and bear my share and try to smile, but I don't have to like it!

Yours truly,  
 DELLIN A. ERICKSON

**SPECIAL MEETING PLANNED**

A special meeting is planned at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, at the Seventh-Day Adventist church in Parma.

Elder Harold L. Gray of Boise will be speaker and all SDA members are urged to attend.



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
 February 25, 1966 - Sponsored by United Church Women

**Top Talents Listed In Nazarene Contest; To Enter Zone Event**

Winners in the junior high division of the local talent contest held Sunday evening at Nyssa church of the Nazarene are Sherri Dodson, Nancy Seward and Pamela Bullock, vocal group; Pamela Bullock, flute solo.

Senior high winners are Kirk and Sherri Dodson, vocal group; Tim Clarkson, trumpet solo; Anita Maine, vocal solo.

Tops in the young adult category are Karen Saunders and Eunice Bullock, piano-organ instrumental group; Joan Dodson, vocal solo; Karen Saunders, Marilyn and Tim Clarkson, vocal group; Dorothy Sheppard, religious reading.

These winners will compete with other Snake River Valley winners in a zone contest slated to begin at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Nyssa church. The public is cordially invited to attend.

**Congo Missionary Plans Sunday Talks At Christian Church**

Gertrude Shoemaker, former missionary to the Congo, will be guest speaker during the 11 o'clock worship service Sunday, Feb. 20, at the Nyssa Christian church.

A potluck dinner is being planned immediately following the service in the church social hall. This is the annual "week of compassion" dinner and the speaker will discuss the various uses for the week of compassion offering.

**Christian Church Activities Reported**

Christian Youth Fellowship group will have a party this evening at the church. Loyalty class members will meet at 8 o'clock tonight at the John Strickland home for a party.

Christian Men's Fellowship group will meet Feb. 18 for dinner at the Ontario church. Those attending are urged to take a friend.

The Elders study group of the church will meet at 7 o'clock Sunday evening, Feb. 20.

**NYSSA NAZARENE CHURCH GROUP HONORS AIRMAN**

Twenty-four members of the young adult Sunday school class of Nyssa Nazarene church met socially Monday evening. They dined at the Pizza Shoppe in Ontario and then went to the Hal Poe residence for games and dessert.

A farewell gift was presented to Russell Cook who has enlisted in the Air Force and will leave Friday. Mrs. Ray Tarter and Karen Saunders were in charge of refreshments and games. Dan Martin is teacher of this class.

**TEENAGERS MEET**

Approximately 30 teenagers of Nyssa Church of the Nazarene gathered at the John Price home Sunday evening following church services. Games were played, with refreshments of valentine cookies, candy and punch served.

**MUSICAL PROGRAM SLATED**

Fifteen minutes of piano-organ melodies will be presented by Karen Saunders and Eunice Bullock prior to the Sunday evening worship service at Nyssa Church of the Nazarene.

The musical program will begin at 7:45 p.m. Pastor John Bullock and his congregation invite all area residents to attend these services at the church, located at Fifth street and Good avenue.

**Adrian Community Church News**

A Women's association meeting was held last Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Jake Borge, with President Frankie Worden in charge.

While answering roll call the women told of visits made during the past month, and valentines were signed by those present, to be sent to three members who were ill.

The lesson, "And Who Is My Neighbor?" was presented by the Mmes. M. L. Kurtz, Irvin Topliff and Wesley Piercy. They discussed needs of the community and ways in which members of the association can help.

Mrs. Borge also showed slides of some of the community needs and reported on progress of the thrift shop in Adrian.

**Ham Dinner Scheduled**

A ham dinner will be served between the hours of 6 and 8 p.m. Saturday at the church with proceeds to be used for church projects. All residents of the area are invited to attend.

**TO AID MISSIONARY FUND**

A missionary fund banquet is being planned at 7 o'clock Friday evening, Feb. 25, at the Nyssa LDS stake house.

Among items which will be auctioned during the evening is a picture which was painted by Nyssa Sid Kelley. The picture is currently on display in the window at the local Idaho Power company office.

**World Day of Prayer Service Slated Feb. 25; Former Nyssan to Speak**

Joining other churches across the nation and throughout the world, those in the Nyssa-Adrian area will hold their annual World Day of Prayer service at 8 o'clock Friday evening, Feb. 25, at the Nyssa Methodist church.

Speaker will be the Rev. John D. Metzler, a former Nyssan who taught school here in 1921-22 and later in Fruitland and Payette. He and Mrs. Metzler worked with the early efforts of United Church Women on clothing collections and this program has grown until now more than five million pounds are collected and prepared by local church groups and are sent to some 40 or 50 countries overseas.

**Speaker Establishes CROP**

In 1947 Rev. Metzler established the Christian Rural Overseas program, better known as the CROP community appeal. He was national director until 1954 when he went overseas to supervise the distribution of food, clothing and other material aids in Europe.

He retired from Church World service in 1965 when he and his wife went to the Greek island of Symi where CWS operates a water distillation plant, using the

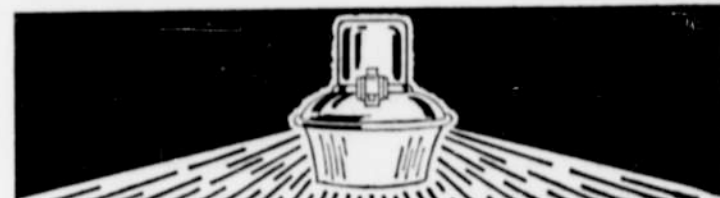
sun's energy to produce fresh water from the sea. Upon completion of this assignment, he began working on a parttime basis as executive secretary for the Idaho Council of Churches.

**Mrs. Oden, Local Chairman**

Mrs. Lester Oden is chairman of the local observance and invites all interested area residents to attend the service.

Now 80 years old, World Day of Prayer is held in 125 countries and on six continents around the world. The observance is on the first Friday of the Lenten season and the same order of service, translated into various languages, is used in all parts of the globe.

This year's service stresses the fact that church members can change the world by their daily actions and by fellowship through Jesus Christ.



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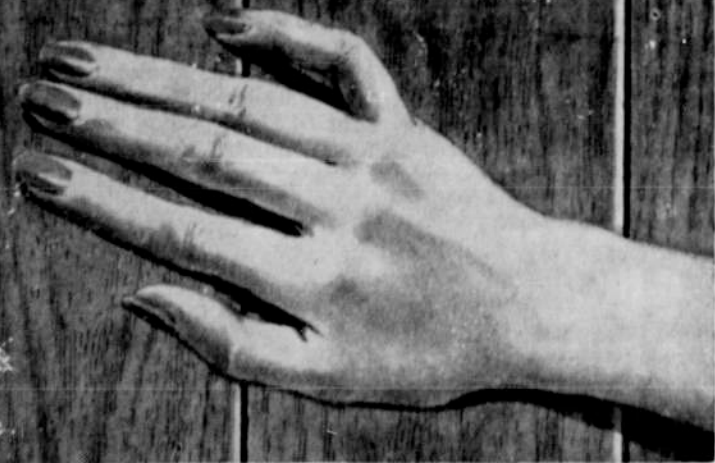
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