

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

TED M. BRAMMER, Editor and Publisher



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Judge Ellis A. White Discusses Case Of Local Boy Sent to Training School

Ontario, Oregon
 May 1, 1966

Mr. Ted Brammer
 Editor-Publisher
 Gate City Journal

Dear Mr. Brammer:

A letter recently came to my desk concerned with the commitment of a boy to the MacLaren Training School and referring to a letter in your newspaper on the same boy; both asked several questions deserving of answer.

The boy, Johnnie (not his real name) was not a bad boy; rather, he was an irresponsible boy, reared in a single-parent home. The mother, well-meaning but not an objective parent, spent time at a business for support. Johnnie was often left alone to roam the streets; to make up for deficiencies, the mother was permissive.

Attempts to Help Fail

Johnnie had been before the court and a previous court. His file contains the report of destruction of property, truancy, drinking, stealing and disorderly conduct. Attempts of teachers and probation officers to help him ended in failure.

Johnnie's arrest, which resulted in his commitment, was drunken driving; hitting or running into two parked automobiles several blocks apart, resulting in estimated damages exceeding \$1000; failure to report the accidents; and abandoning an automobile.

At the time of the incident Johnnie was on probation and was supposed to be living with a relative in another county, as a term of that probation. It is noted that he was driving an automobile

owned by the mother who had granted permission to drive the car, knowing that the insurance policy specifically excluded liability when driven by the boy.

Judged by Jury of Peers

In the juvenile court hearing, before a jury of Johnnie's peers, his rights and the rights of the mother and family were fully protected. Every opportunity was given for an alternate plan which would reasonably assure the court that Johnnie would be controlled and supervised to the end that he became a responsible person.

The Juvenile Jury, made up of eight high school students, outside of the Nyssa district, hearing the allegation against Johnnie, recommended to the court that the boy be sent to the training school. Recognizing that Johnnie needed supervision to the end that he become responsible for his acts, gain respect for law, order and the rights of others, the court committed him to MacLaren, where it is hoped he will become a responsible and useful member of society.

Will Be Placed on Parole

The length of his stay at the school will be dependent on Johnnie. He will, however, receive education in the accredited high school there and will have the opportunity to enter into a sport in which he excelled. After a time he will be placed on parole to either a member of the family or a foster home.

As other boys and girls of our county community, Johnnie was the product of circumstances beyond his control. I am certain he knew right from wrong, yet he lacked the resources to resist the

Methodist Annual Conference Sessions Scheduled in Ontario

Bishop A. Raymond Grant of Portland, resident bishop of the Portland area of the Methodist church, will be in Ontario May 23-26 to conduct sessions of the Idaho conference. The meetings will be held at the First Methodist church in the neighboring city.

Attending the conference from Nyssa will be Mrs. Kinsey Keveren, lay member of the local church, and the Rev. Ralph A. Lawrence. The latter is secretary of the annual conference and publisher of its Journal. Also attending will be Mrs. Lawrence, current president of the Ministers' Wives association.

Various worship services of the conference, featuring Dr. Lee C. Moorehead of Delaware, Ohio, a nationally renowned pastor, will be held at 11:15 a.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and at 8 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday.

Ontario churches hosting the conference are Community Methodist, with the Rev. George Uye-mura as pastor; and the First Methodist, the Rev. Tom Foster, pastor.

pattern of increasing delinquency which he followed.

A principal problem faced by juvenile authorities is the paradox posed by society itself. On the one hand society wants delinquency stopped; while on the other, it deplores punishing youngsters when it's really their parents who are at fault—and the parents themselves maintain they are blameless, too.

Explains Court's Policy

For this reason I have instituted the policy of putting the juvenile on notice to "shape up" or risk stricter measures if necessary, and by publishing the names of second offenders and their parents and incident of involvement. In this matter we inform the parents to keep their youngsters in line or face censure and scorn.

In the instance of Johnnie, home had not provided the care, supervision, discipline and security needed and undoubtedly wanted. For the protection of the public and in Johnnie's interest, commitment seemed advisable.

It is hoped that out of our concern for this boy that we (alone and as members of communities) will exert larger effort in helping disadvantaged youth.

Sincerely,

ELLIS A. WHITE
 Malheur County Judge

Journal Classifieds Bring Results!

SOONER OR LATER—!



About Our Little-Known People!

By "THE APPLE MAN"—Better Known as "The Happy Farmer,"
 Writer of a Journal Column Several Years Ago

A mother of 22, grandmother of 68 and great-grandmother of ??? says she has worked all her life. Her first job for pay, and WOW what pay—50 cents per day.

Of course, it was child's work—down in Oklahoma—driving a mule hitched to a cane press. It wasn't a union job, and it was late fall when the days were getting shorter.

They never went to work until after sun-up. Didn't get a "coffee break" (anyway they didn't call it that), but at mid-morning the farmer changed mules.

Oh, a cane press is three 8- or 10-inch rollers, about 18 inches long huddled together like three tin cans.

The old mule goes around and around (if one keeps a sharp stick handy) and the three rollers squeeze the juice out of the cane stalks. Then the juice is boiled down (which is a story in itself) and made into "black strap" or sorghum molasses.

Raises Five Other Children

Our little lady "grewed" up fast, married at 16, raised 17 children of her own and raised five "poor folks" children.

Now she is still working, never got much education, doesn't have much skill. Lives in a "hovel" down north of Nyssa, next to the junk yard. She salvages iron from the junk pile—doesn't get any wages, but says the boss gives her one-half of the proceeds from

all the iron she can sell. Doesn't want "welfare." They won't let her work and never asked her if she got all her doctor bills paid. They didn't use doctors so much in those days and the doctors didn't charge so much either.

Gives Biographical Material

P. S. Am 68 years old and laid up with "Arthritis." Have to lean pretty heavy on a cane (could be known as a cane press). Worked as a farmer all my life, get Social Security, but would go "bugs" if I had to sit idle.

Don't quite make expenses, but get a kick out of livin' and like to give apples to the kids—especially the Mexican kids—they love them.

Run across our "little lady" last evening. Am quite "windy." We got to talking and I never realized here was a story—never even got her name. This morning at 3 o'clock, woke up and couldn't go back to sleep—so here is the story.

If you print this, please send me a copy of the paper. I would like to leave it on our "little lady's" doorstep.

Church Women Meet In Rosenkilde Home

Ten women were present for the Thursday afternoon meeting of the Women's association of Ad-rian Community church. The session was held at the home of Mrs. Elmer Rosenkilde, and roll call was answered by members telling of friendship calls made during the past month.

Mrs. Frankie Worden was in charge of the meeting, and Mrs. John Packwood served as secretary in the absence of Mrs. Leroy Bennett.

The treasurer's report was given by Mrs. Jake Borge, who also reported on the May Fellowship meeting held recently in Nyssa.

Mrs. Rosenkilde was program chairman. She and Mrs. John Fahrenbruch presented a skit entitled "Mothers Don't Have Much Fun." This was followed by a quiz, "Mothers in History."

The women then took their

LUTHERAN CONGREGATION HONORS MILBRATH FAMILY

"The Torch Is Passed" was theme of the sermon delivered Sunday by Pastor John Milbrath in his final address to the congregation at Faith Lutheran church. During the morning worship hour, a confirmation service was held for David Danford, Bunny La-Bounty, Leah Henigson and Ken-ny Wright.

Following the services, a pot-luck dinner was served in honor of the Milbraths and a gift was presented to each member of the family. They left Tuesday for their new home in Lebanon, Ore.

places at a long dining table for a period of fellowship, followed by refreshments. Ice plants and philodendrons were given as fav-ors.

Bible Group Meets May 25

The women's Bible study group will meet May 25 at the home of Mrs. Lydia Worden.

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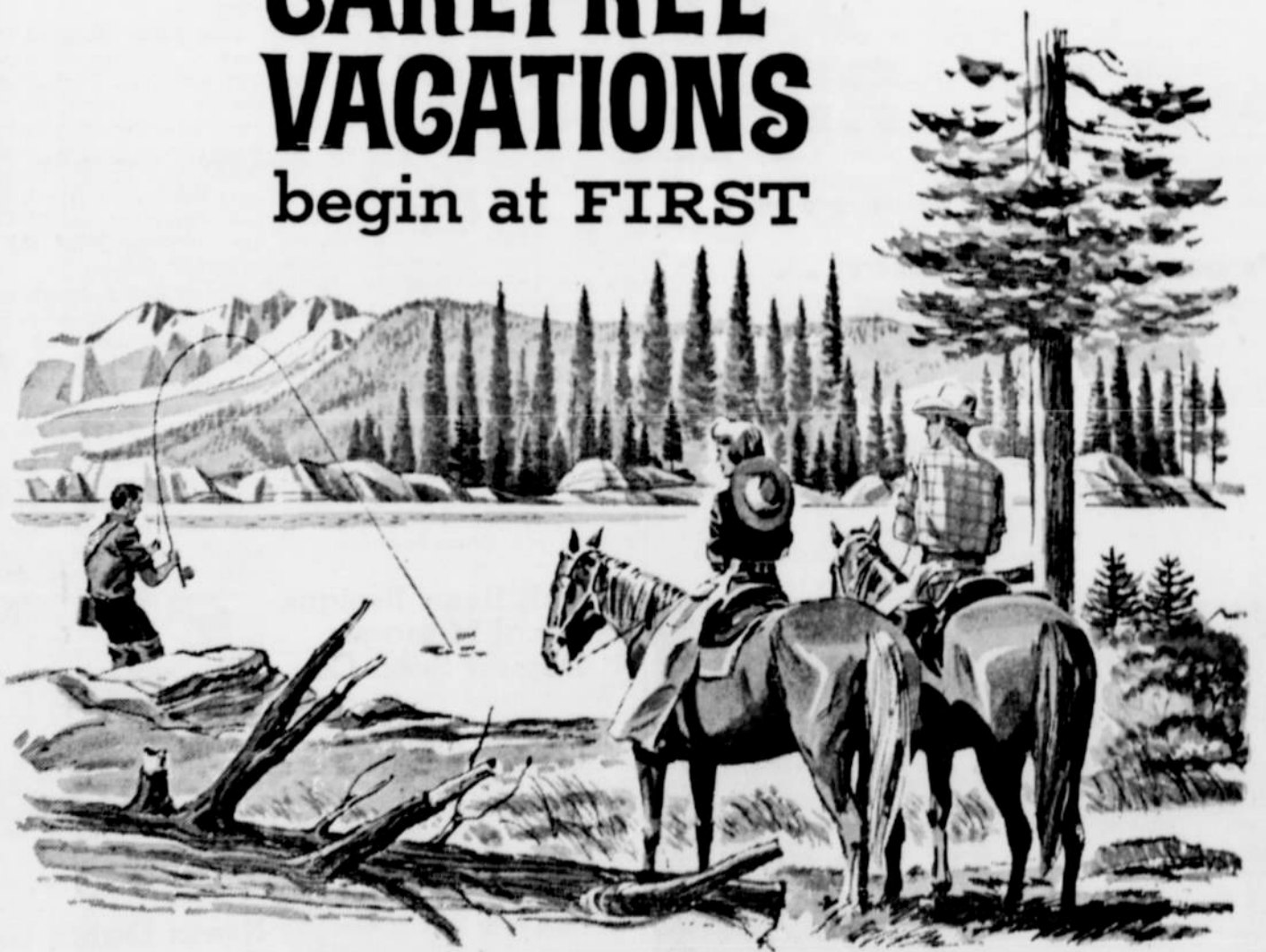
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