

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

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION
APPROVED MEMBER

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

We noted in your January issue that at the Legion's last National Convention, a number of resolutions were passed, among them Res. #453-66 (quote) "which seeks for veterans of service in the Vietnam area a benefits program comparable to that provided other wartime veterans" (end of quote).

We feel this resolution should be rephrased to read: "A benefits program comparable to that provided the veterans of all other wars EXCEPT WORLD WAR I". Why this exception? Let us examine what our Country has done for these older veterans in the past 50 years and see if we want the same treatment for these youngsters now fighting in Vietnam:

1. When the "doughboys" of WWI marched home after defeating the German armies, they were hailed as "heroes" by a "grateful" country. They were discharged, given \$60 severance pay and a ticket home and were permitted to keep the uniforms they were wearing.

2. They were given little else -- no G. I. Bill, no job protection, no free schooling, no outright or guaranteed loans to enable them to buy farms, homes, or go into business. There was no job training. Do you want this for our Vietnam veterans?

3. With no jobs no money, many of these "heroes" were forced to sell apples and pencils on street corners to stay alive. Do you want this for the Vietnam boys?

4. When a number of these hungry WWI boys made an unarmed march on Washington to dramatize their plight they were driven off by their own Army using tear gas. Do you want this to happen to our current G. I.'s?

5. Another thing: We note that the Government is now using psychological warfare on the home front in the matter of War Bonds sales by dramatizing, with machine gun sound effects, that our soldiers are buying War Bonds while fighting in Vietnam. Again we ask: Do you want our Vietnam vets to have the same experience with their War Bonds as happened to the WWI veterans?

"Why?" you ask. "What happened to those bonds?" Just this: When the doughboys were discharged in 1919, since the Government offered them nothing to get them started in civilian life again, they had to sell the bonds they had bought while fighting in France to make the small down payment on a home or farm or perhaps buy something to eat.

To their everlasting resentment most of them found they could not sell these bonds unless they consented to have them discounted from 25 to 40%! Their "grateful" fellow Americans who stayed home and profited from the war caught these returning vets in a bind and literally robbed them of one fourth of the money they had saved

in the Army! To our knowledge, this point has never been publicized, but it is factual. From the above reasons, you can see why we suggest the rephrasing of Res. #453-66. It was the veterans of WWI who pushed through the G. I. Bill which did so much for the veterans of subsequent wars and for the economy of our Country and those old vets don't want any less for the boys from Vietnam.

When you think of all the pensions our Government has granted the veterans of all wars prior to WWI, and when you total all the benefits given the veterans of all wars since WWI, and when you think of all the billions of dollars (100) our Government has given away and is still giving away all over the world, to friend and foe alike, you can't help but wonder why, why, WHY does our Country still refuse to help her few remaining, aging sons who offered their lives in defense of our Country back in 1917-18?

An inequity, an injustice certainly exists.

During our last national election this inequity was recognized by a plank in the Democratic platform (we quote) "Veterans of World War I, whose Federal benefits have not matched those of veterans of subsequent service, will receive the special attention of the Democratic party looking toward equitable adjustments." (end of quote). Are platform pledges like theatre tickets, useful to get you in but of no value or meaning after you get in?

The one question we would like answered is this: "WILL YOU PLEDGE YOURSELF TO DO ALL YOU CAN TO RIGHT THIS INJUSTICE DURING THIS 90TH SESSION OF CONGRESS?"

Respectfully submitted,
The Veterans of World War I,
Vale Barracks #0352,
.....

Nyssa Gate City Journal
Nyssa, Oregon

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Brammer:

This is to confirm our telephone conversation yesterday.

It was so kind of Bob Thompson to take our "letter" in to you. And even more so to do such a thoughtful thing as to obtain a paper having stories and pictures of that section.

Nyssa has very strong, happy memories for all of us. My sister and I were born and went through most of grade school there. It was mother's and dad's first home, and they liked the community.

Thank you for telling me about Dr. Sarazin. He was quite a force in our lives because of dad's and his professions. But he did a very special thing for dad.

My father, S. F. Foster, bought his store in Nyssa in 1906. Several months later he came down with typhoid fever. Dr. Sarazin filled the prescriptions for the people (dad said there were few in those days)---compared to now and it was a tiny community) and Roy Crockett sold the merchandise and took care of the store.

Thank you very much for your interest in their 60th anniversary story. I had no idea people like Dr. Sarazin were still alive or there!

I only knew for sure that Bob was there now. But in the copy of the Journal he sent I saw several names I recognized. Some had been in my class. So I would also like a year's subscription to the paper to be mailed to me. Thank you again.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. James B. (Fay) Schick

NAME JUVENILE OFFENDERS TO THE EDITOR;

I think names of juvenile offenders together with their parents' names should be made public and parents held responsible for damages.

Windows in my home have been shot with air rifles. I scolded a boy for shooting passing cars. The next day (last July 4) the boy and his teenage brother came into my yard and deliberately shot and broke the windshield of my car. The cost of replacement is \$125. A county official then instructed the boys not to shoot guns in the thickly populated area. The instructions have been disregarded.

Walter Burdette
Nyssa, Oregon

If looking at the higher-ups makes you discontented, look down occasionally at those less fortunate than yourself.

Yturri-Smith Weekly Report On Legislative Work in Salem

The Oregon House of Representatives had a "property tax relief day" Thursday, March 30, when it approved a 3% sales tax, exempting food and drugs and new system of distributing state aid to local schools. The sales tax is expected to raise more than \$124 million annually, which will be appropriated to property tax relief by increasing the state support of local schools to 75% from the present 24% level. This will result in a 37% state-wide average decrease in property taxes.

The sales tax and school aid formula are based on HJR 3, the constitutional amendment passed earlier by the House. HJR 3, if approved by the voters, would allow the legislature to enact a 3% sales tax, exempting food and drugs, as was passed Thursday. HJR 3 places a limit of 5 mills on property taxes for schools, with an absolute limit of 7 mills. Placing this limitation on tax increases in the constitution ensures that the sales tax funds must go to local school support and consequently, property tax relief.

Revised Constitution Approved
The House Judiciary Committee has approved a new Oregon Constitution that considerably alters the modest proposal passed earlier by the Senate. Major changes in the document would elect the Governor and Secretary of State as a team, and would make the Secretary of State, in effect, a Lieutenant Governor with his duties assigned by the Governor. The present independent position of the Secretary of State and the Treasurer would be abolished. The legislature would elect a controller to serve for six years and oversee the management of the state funds.

Where the Senate revision would raise the number of Representatives from 60 to 65 and the number of Senators from 30 to 35, the Judiciary Committee's proposal would add only one Senator and one Representative. Both the House and Senate agree that the executive branch of state government should be reorganized into only 20 major departments.

Senator Yturri valiantly fought to preserve Eastern Oregon representation by including in the Senate version of the constitutional revision a provision for adding five members to the House of Representatives and five members to the Senate. This, in effect, would protect further depletion of Representatives and Senators in Eastern Oregon. Representative Smith opposes the constitutional revision as it has been amended in the House because it would change the functions of existing Governor, Secretary of State, and Treasurer. It would also reduce the additions to the House and Senate from five each to one each. Should the constitutional revision pass as amended by the House, Eastern Oregon will lose one more Representative and one more Senator by 1970. The one-man vote theory has already drastically reduced representation from Eastern Oregon and further raids on Eastern Oregon representation must be opposed.

Anti-Pollution Measures Passed
The Senate Committee on Air and Water Quality Control has unanimously approved the creation of regional air quality control authorities. The bill provides for a coordinated statewide program of air pollution control, and allocates the responsibility for such control between the state and local government units.

The House Natural Resources Committee has sent to the floor a bill that gives the State Sanitary Authority considerable control over field burning. The bill requires farmers to obtain burning permits from local fire chiefs or the Board of County Commissioners. But the State Sanitary Authority is to notify the local officials when marginal conditions exist for smoke dispersion, and can stop all burning on days when smoke dispersion is significantly restricted.

Political Restrictions Removed
The House Elections Committee has approved a measure that removes virtually all restrictions on political activity by teachers. Other public employees would be subject only to the restrictions of the federal Hatch Act which would apply only to the employees of agencies, except education, receiving federal funds. The Elections Committee Bill also allows increased political activity by corporations.

Other News
In other events of importance this past week, the House has rejected the Senate-House conference committee report on altering the teachers' loyalty oath. The House balked at giving the teachers the option of taking the oath or refusing to do so. The bill must now be referred to a new conference committee.

The Senate Highway Committee, of which Senator Yturri is Chairman, took action this week on several bills which will come to the Senate floor for a vote on Monday. One which has a particular appeal for the people of Eastern Oregon, many of whom have written to express their approval, is the House-passed bill HB 1091, allowing the use of metal studded tires on Oregon highways, if required for safe operation because of weather conditions. If the Senate acts favorably on HB 1091, it goes to the Governor for his approval.

Another measure passed out favorably from Senate Yturri's Committee is SB 312 having to do with relocation of Pipelines. This bill would require the State Highway Commission to pay the reasonable cost of relocation to a municipal corporation, district, or authority whose authorities are required to be relocated due to construction.

The Senate and House have both approved SB 107 which will give permanent life to the State Department of Commerce. This Department, created by the 1965 legislature, was "on trial" for two years. SB 107 will continue its operations on a permanent basis.

Bernard Frost Ends 41 Years
(Continued from Page 1)

western division headquartered here, joined the utility at Ontario in 1926 as a truck driver on a construction crew.

Four years later, after working as an apprentice lineman, lineman and serviceman, he was transferred to Nyssa as district manager. He remained in that position for the next 22 years.

In 1952, Frost was named manager of the western division, which serves Payette, Cambridge, Homedale, Parma, Weiser, Ontario, Halfway, Huntington, Nyssa and Vale areas.

Bailey said that during Frost's 15-year term as manager, the western division "has consistently marked up increases in electric use reflecting not only his ability in directing operations and sales efforts, but the rising modern electric standard of living and working in the area as well."

During Frost's term, farm use of electricity in the division increased 66%, residential use 100%, commercial-industrial use 237%, and irrigation use 244%.

"The list of Mr. Frost's civic activities during his long career demonstrates an unflinching interest in the welfare and progress of the communities where he has lived," Bailey said.

Active At Nyssa
While at Nyssa, where he served two terms on the city council, Frost was selected to receive the first "citizenship award" granted by the American Legion. He also was president of the Nyssa Chamber of Commerce, a charter member of the Lions Club and master of the Masonic Lodge.

At Payette, Frost has served as county chairman of both the Red Cross and Salvation Army, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and on the Executive board of the Ore-Ida Council of the Boy Scouts.

Other activities have included service as president of the Treasure Valley Chamber of Commerce, president of the Kiwanis Club, and participation in numerous fund-raising drives. He was a five-term president of the Eagles Lodge and a six-term worthy patron of the Eastern Star Lodge.

Frost, who is Idaho Power's 10th oldest active employee in years of service, already has made long-range plans for his retirement.

This summer, he and his wife, Hazel, will travel into Canada, then visit Mexico next winter.

For safe driving, see that all nuts are tight, except the one at the wheel.

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Why I Hate Advertising

My name's Johnson. I'm a taxpaying American citizen and I hate advertising.

Take toothpaste. Since I was a pup I used the same toothpaste. So my wife reads ads about toothpaste that stops decay. Nothing will do but we use this new stuff. Sure, the kids don't have cavities any more but this new toothpaste sure doesn't taste to me like the old days. Thanks to advertising.

Take washing machines and dryers and all that jazz. These women read ads about saving work and time so they got appliances all over the place. I figure they haven't got enough to do anyway. Nuts to advertising.

If you want to get right down to it, take all this advertising my competition runs. These characters run ads with prices so low I got to run my own ads and practically give the stuff away. It's the only way I can get people in to buy my stuff. Advertising is a heck of a way to run a business.

Advertising is for the birds. It gives the customer all the breaks. Speaking for myself, the only time I ever read it is when I'm going to buy something and need to find out where I can get the best buy.

The only time it pays to be advertised at is when you're going to buy something.

A public service advertisement prepared by a leading Oregon advertising agency at the request of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association and published by this newspaper for your information.

The Nyssa Gate City Journal