

Nyssa Gate City Journal

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RECORD PROPERTY LEVIES REGISTERED

In a year which saw close to 300,000 Oregon voters expressing support, in a losing battle, for a constitutional amendment to limit property taxes to one and one half percent of true cash value, it might appear to be a contradiction to report that total property tax levies increased in a dollar amount greater than any single year in the state's history. Percentage-wise it was also the largest in modern history.

According to "Your Taxes", the non-partisan Oregon Tax Research, aggregate property tax levies in all the 36 counties for the fiscal year 1968-69, prior to offsets from the several property tax relief programs, totaled \$410,417,205, an increase of \$54,176,415 over last year. The state-wide percentage increase is 15.2, compared to 10.7 for last year. The previous highest recorded increase was 11.3 for 1964-65.

MALHEUR FIGURES

It might be noted that the figures for Malheur county are slightly below the statewide increase. According to the tables prepared by the research agency, the local county registered a 13.5 increase of which \$31,740 were for special assessments--out of the \$4,718,927 gross levies for 1968-69 year.

The tables show: Gross levy for LAST year \$4,157,187 - for the CURRENT year \$4,718,927--increase \$561,740. PROPERTY TAX OFFSETS are: Senior Citizens exemptions - \$12,765; Inventory Tax Relief - \$47,516; General Property relief - \$232,012--leaving a net of \$4,426,995.

COUNTY RATE \$2.86

According to footnotes on the Statement of Taxes, made by Assessor John Koopman, the Original rate to operate Malheur County is \$2.86 but with

Local Property Relief (received only by the County) the effective rate was cut to \$1.80.

This figure is exceeded in most districts only by the assessments for schools (in most cases approved by a direct vote of the people). In some special road districts citizens have imposed assessments upon themselves higher than the county rate. The next highest distribution applying to practically every section of the county is for the operation of TVCC in Ontario. This rate is \$1.61.

NYSSA RATE MAKE-UP
Nyssa's rate of \$26.27 is exceeded only by Vale with \$28.21, closely followed by Adrian with \$23.07.

Nyssa breakdown shows: County - \$1.80; Independent education district - \$5.44; School dist. (#26) \$8.80; TVCC - \$1.61; Memorial hospital - \$1.15 and City of Nyssa - \$7.47.

Rural Nyssa has an effective rate of \$20.90 and Rural Adrian \$19.99.

For further study and comparisons any taxpayer can check the statement of Assessor Koopman, which is quite complete.

As soon as the Tax Collector's office has completed checking the taxes received in the mail prior to November 15 (deadline for the cash discount of 3 percent) the Journal will carry a summary of these items.

Dec. 3 Dinner To Honor Besse

A special appreciation dinner is planned Tuesday, Dec. 3, at East Side cafe in Ontario to honor Steve Besse, Malheur County agent who is being transferred to the position of chairman of the Lane County Extension staff in Eugene.

The no-host dinner meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. in the Lions' room and is jointly sponsored by the Malheur Potato Growers association, the Malheur Onion Growers association, and the Labor Sponsoring association.

Raymond Russell, president of the Malheur Potato Growers and member of the Oregon Potato Commission, said the dinner is being held to show appreciation to Besse for outstanding assistance he has given to members of all three organizations.

Harry Sandquist, chairman of the Malheur Extension staff, said Besse has served as the agent in charge of three programs for nearly six years and has served as secretary to all three groups for the entire period.

Russell said all members of the associations and friends of the Besse family are invited to attend the dinner meeting. Reservations for the dinner should be made at the County Agent's office by Friday, Nov. 29, so that arrangements can be made. Reservations can be made by mail, telephone, or in person.

Nyssa cemetery under direction of Lienkaemper chapel. Serving as active pallbearers were Owen Gann, Walter Looney, William Nelson, Giles Cary, Charles Custer and Burton Parton.

WEATHER

DATE	MAX.	MIN.
Nov. 20	47	41
Nov. 21	48	42
Nov. 22	54	42
Nov. 23	53	31
Nov. 24	47	37
Nov. 25	47	36
Nov. 26	44	28
Nov. 27	--	30

.02 precipitation was recorded on Nov. 22, with .31 record on Nov. 25.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

11/18/67	335,130 Acre Feet
11/18/68	147,920 Acre Feet



STUDENT GOVERNMENT DAY IS SPONSORED ANNUALLY BY THE NHS MODERN PROBLEMS CLASS AND IS NOW BEING TAUGHT BY CHARLES NEWKIRK. INCLUDED IN THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES WERE INSPECTIONS OF FACILITIES AND ORIENTATION SESSIONS.



Oregon Soil-Water Group Reports Activities; Sets 1969 Meeting In Ontario

Approximately 300 persons attended the 20th annual meeting of the Oregon Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (OASD) held Nov. 13-15 at the Marion Motor hotel in Salem.

Theme of the conference was "SWCD's plus Resources equals Oregon's Future."

Attending from Malheur county were Wilbur Chapin, Adrian SWCD chairman; Duane Town, Malheur SWCD work unit conservationist; Leeds Bailey, Malheur county extension agent; Harold Markley, Adrian SWCD supervisor and Jerry Beery, Adrian SWCD work unit conservationist. Accompanying the men were Mrs. Chapin and Mrs. Markley.

According to Chapin, Ontario has been selected as site of the 1969 convention. He said that plans for the Nov. 12-14 state meeting are already underway.

Among the most important happenings at the convention were the adoption of 22 resolutions and a legislative panel discussion.

State Senator L. W. Newberry, discussed the financial picture; Irvin Mann, state representative, spoke on water legislation; Rep. Joe Rogers talked about proposals of the Interim Committee on Agriculture, including zoning and land use planning. Robert F. Smith, state representative from Burns, spoke on public lands.

Rep. Smith said national forest people have done considerable research which indicated timber production could be doubled by good management on Class II and III lands.

Smith said state revenue on "O" and "C" land brings in \$25 million annually to "O" and "C" counties. He also thought it important that the Forest Service have a more stable budget through Congress to insure less disruption of their many programs.

Rep. Rogers said that Senate Bill 10, the zoning bill, would limit urban construction to non-agriculture land. Highway and airport construction would also be affected. Senate Bill 13, a soil survey for zoning, will be used to determine if land should be set aside for agriculture, or whether it shall be used for housing, highways, etc.

Concerning H. B. 1012, Studies of Proposed Irrigation Projects, Rogers said, cost of surveys would be borne by the people involved.

H. B. 1013 authorized county courts to maintain dikes, and revises the diking laws so county courts can assume repair and maintenance and assess the taxpayers for cost.

Rep. Newberry told the group if SWCD could show dollars gained through district functions compared to dollars spent, the legislature would look more favorably on additional funds for conservation at the district level.

Rep. Mann said there are

Nyssa High Student Council To Sponsor Clothing Drive

Members of the Nyssa high school student council are appealing to all area residents to support Save the Children Federation's 26th Annual Bundle Days Drive to be held in the schools Dec. 2-6. Students will be collecting clean, wearable, used clothing and shoes to be distributed by the Federation to needy children in the Southern Appalachian mountains. While the great need is for children's clothing, adult apparel is also welcome.

"In the Southern Appalachian Mountains where the boys and girls need an education if they are to develop their natural skills and talents and break out of poverty, too many of them are being forced to drop out of school for lack of presentable clothes," states Susan Bratton, chairman of the Bundle Days Committee. "This makes it urgent that students and all residents bring wearable used shoes, coats, dresses, suits and underwear to the collection centers in Nyssa schools."

Save the Children Federation, international child welfare organization, with headquarters in Norwalk, Connecticut was founded in 1932. The Federation aids children, families and communities in the Southern Appalachian mountains, on American Indian reservations and in many countries abroad.

All officers of the association were re-elected. They are Stanley R. Christensen, McMinnville, president; Wilbur Chapin, Nyssa, vice-president; William J. Cochran, Grants Pass, secretary; and Ben Christensen, Harrisburg, treasurer.

Adrian SWCD delegates were among several groups receiving special awards at the state convention. They won the annual report contest for their "outstanding" brochure on district activities.

Area and state soil judging, youth awards, speaking contests, outstanding cooperators, and conservation - education contests were also held.

FIRE DISTRICT ELECTION SET

Annual election of a director for the Nyssa Rural Fire Protection District will be held Dec. 2, 1968 at Nyssa city hall.

Wilbur Atherton, who is completing his second five-year term, is standing for re-election.

Any citizen of the district who may wish to serve on this board may have his or her name placed on the ballot by securing 15 signatures of district property owners on a petition submitted to the Secretary prior to date of election. Hours of the election are from 1 to 6 p.m.

CITY OFFICIALS FOR A DAY

In the photo above, NHS seniors surround Nyssa's 'real' city manager, Fred O. Koch. The students who ran the city government on Nov. 14, 1968 are Charlie Bale, Ann Zittercob, Merla Ashby, Pam Saito and Jim Beck. Mr. Koch is seated between Pam and Jim. The latter served as acting city manager. Standing are Larry Wilson, Steve Pecora, Robert Edmondson, Jerry Wright and Alex Sutschkow. Seated at the table (in lower photo) are acting city councilmen Loe Loera, Wendy Bair, Danny McGinnis, Dick Cooper, Peggy Moore and Brenda McKinney. Four of the 'actual' city councilmen shown with them are Cecil Morrison Jr., Lee Dail, Ernie Metcalf and Larry Bauman.

FEDERAL AGENCIES PROPOSE INCREASE IN GRAZING FEES

Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman and Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall announced today proposed changes in current methods of determining fees for livestock grazing on National Forests and public lands under their administration.

This action is in accordance with the instructions contained in the Bureau of the Budget's circular A-25 of September 23, 1959. Circular A-25 established general governmental policy for all Federal activities. It called for fair market value to be obtained for all services and resources provided the public through the establishment of a system of reasonable fee charges.

Fees charged livestockmen who graze their cattle and sheep under permit on public lands managed by Interior's Bureau of Land Management and Agriculture's Forest Service have been under intensive study for two years. The proposal for changing fees has resulted from a study using data from a survey designed and conducted for the land management agencies by the Department of Agriculture's Statistical Reporting Service (SRS). The results of the SRS survey indicate grazing fees are below the market value for the forage.

About 47,000 grazing permits are issued to farmers and ranchers by the two agencies. The purpose of the study was to compare charges or values of grazing on similar private and Federal holdings. The intensive SRS survey produced data needed to estimate grazing values on 98 National Forests, 19 National Grasslands and 48 BLM Districts in 17 Western States. Some 10,000 individual ranchers were interviewed in the survey and more than 14,000 questionnaires were collected. Information was obtained from the ranchers on 13 non-fee costs of using public and private lands and lease rates on private grazing lands for both cattle and sheep. Cost factors include such items as cost of handling, trucking, feeding, and animal loss.

Although using the same common base and annual forage index factors, Forest Service fees will vary by each National Forest according to long-existing fee bases. For cattle the new fees are estimated from 31 cents to \$1.25 per cow month. Sheep fees on the Western National Forests are estimated to vary from 6 to 25 cents per sheep month. The new Forest Service fees will be applicable in 1969 to the National Forests in 11 Western States. Changes in fees for grazing on other National Forests and National Grasslands will be determined in 1970.

Provides Review
"We want full industry and public review prior to putting these regulations into effect," Secretaries Freeman and Udall stated. "When these regulations are approved, both agencies will use graduated increases over a period of time to reach the fair market value of the forage. This will give the livestock operators an opportunity to adjust their operations to meet the increased fees without undue impact."

The proposed changes in calculation of BLM grazing fees are being published by the Secretary of the Interior in the Federal Register. Proposed changes in National Forest grazing fees will be announced by the Forest Service. A 45-day period will be given to interested parties in submitting their comments to both Secretaries before a final decision is made by the two Departments.

UP 33-1/3 PERCENT

A common base of \$1.23 per animal unit month, adjusted by an annual forage value index, would be used to calculate grazing fees for livestock using the National Forests and Public

YULETIDE SEASON OPENS IN NYSSA SATURDAY, DEC. 7

Nyssa merchants will officially open the Christmas Season Saturday, Dec. 7, when Santa Claus will make his first appearance at 2 p.m.

The stores are well stocked and all will be in readiness for the entire family.

The Journal will again blanket the trading area, compliments of the Chamber of Commerce, at no extra cost to the individual merchants.

Advertisers are asked to get ad copy in early for better service and in order for there to be no delay in the mailing of this issue at the regular time.

Blood Drawing Dated Dec. 11

Nyssa's next Red Cross blood drawing will be held from 2 to 6 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 11 at the Eagles' hall. Jay-C-Ette chairmen, in charge of arrangements, are Mrs. Monty (Norma) Burbank and Mrs. David (Judy) Peery.

Women from Owyhee Community church will be in charge of the canteen, with Cadet Scouts of Troop No. 99 providing baby-sitting services.

The Jay-C-Ette chairmen announce that once again the traveling trophy will go to the organization with the highest percentage of members donating blood.

The quota is 150 pints.



NYSSA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT COLLEGE functions during a recent visit to Boise State College. Among those making the trip were students in the advanced typing and office practice classes. In the photo (l to r) are a BSC office employee, Frederick J. Keller, director of BSC's data-processing center; NHS students Anita Piercy,

Karen Zerbel, Mike Hust, Ken Wright, Dan Marostica, Patty Lowe, Wendy Bair, Alex Sutschkow, Connie Fife, Janis Piercy, Susan Bratton and Chris Meyer. They group was accompanied to Boise by Mrs. Gene (Kay) LaFay, NHS secretary; Gerald Talbot and Dale Schraufnagel, business instructors.