

The Gate City Journal
 TED M. BRAMMER, Editor and Publisher

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ROCKHOUNDS SAY 'THANKS'

August 7, 1969

The Chamber of Commerce Nyssa, Oregon

Dear Sir:

We have just returned from Nyssa, and we want to express our appreciation of the very fine reception accorded us by the Chamber of Commerce and the citizens of Nyssa and outlying communities. Everywhere we met courtesy and consideration. This isn't always true - sometimes the citizens of a town "tolerate" the visitors and make it very obvious that the money they bring into a community is welcome but the person is not. This is not true of Nyssa.

The barbecue was excellent, and we feel you were wise in promoting corn and potatoes and beef - local products - in your barbecue. We sat at a table with local folk, and they made us feel very welcome.

Mr. Moncur, Chairman of Thundergg Days, requested that any suggestions for improvement be submitted for consideration since this is the best way of knowing how to improve future festivals. So, we have several suggestions that might or might not be of merit.

We are both Red Cross First Aid Instructors and as such, very conscious of safety and first aid. No one was designated as a first aider on the field trips. Fortunately, none was needed and we would have volunteered had the need arose, but it does give a feeling of security to have someone designated.

We were surprised at the number of neophyte rockhounds that attended. We did not anticipate so many "newcomers" to the hobby. These people have to rely on others for guidance. We feel that it would not entail too much effort on the committee's part to supply a guide that would be able to furnish information about the material to be found, what tools are required, where to locate it, etc. Not one of the men leading the trips were on knew anything about rocks and minerals.

Also, before starting out, a conclave could be called with at least one person from each auto, to instruct them in the ways of rock hound field trips. Each person is responsible for the car behind him, so if they become lost, the whole group eventually knows it.

What about a card file with the registration? Containing the license number, name, home address, etc. of each vehicle. When you go out on a trip, sign in and when you return, go to the stand and sign in again. Someone should check and make sure everyone has returned. We were concerned when one couple had not returned by evening because she had a heart con-

dition, and they were the last ones out on Haystack Butte arriving just as the rest of us were leaving. We had no way of checking on them. Fortunately, nothing had happened. They came in about midnight, and apparently nothing was wrong.

Another suggestion is that concerning showers. Rock hounding is a dirty job. Usually you come in dusty. Spitz baths are fine for a day or two, but after that! Most of us are willing to pay a fee for a bath, but several had to pay a rather large fee to a motel just to use a bath. Some of the motels charged only a few dollars, and that is fine. Maybe a listing could be compiled of the names of motels, addresses, and charges for using the shower facilities.

Maybe the high school gymnasium showers could be made available. Certain hours, since someone of the committee would have to be there, of course.

Well, these are just a few of the suggestions. And I hope I have not made them sound critical. They are not intended to be.

We have been active in civic affairs for years. We are aware of the number of problems and the very hard work that goes into something like this. Just the arranging to have the garbage picked up every day, for example, and the toilet paper supplied to the rest rooms, and other instances of that sort requires time and effort. We appreciated the morning paper and all the other courtesies shown us.

Thank you, again, for a wonderful experience. We picked a bucket of choke cherries in Succor Creek Canyon, and I made up a batch of jelly - a wonderful reminder of our trip. We have very nice material we gathered. We have a fine sun tan. (Couldn't you arrange for cooler weather!) We gathered up two dozen gunny sacks - hard to come by in Sacramento, by picking them up along side the road where they'd blown off - so had them to pack rocks in. Lots of little extras. Even getting Kool-aid for 3¢ a pkg. at one of the markets was fun! Haven't seen it less than 5¢ for a long time.

Yours truly, Mr. and Mrs. Carl J. Schultze, Members of the Sacramento Diggers Mineral Society, 1516 42 nd St., Sacramento, Calif.

In Memoriam

EDITH C. ELGAN

Funeral services for Mrs. Edith C. Elgan were conducted Tuesday afternoon, August 26, 1969 at Lienkaemper chapel. Officiating was the Rev. J. D. Crego of Nyssa United Methodist church. Interment was made at Salt Lake City.

Mrs. Elgan succumbed Sunday in an Ontario hospital. She was born Dec. 2, 1892 in Salt Lake City, a daughter of William and Jenny Brashear.

The deceased spent her early life in Cortez, Nev., Salt Lake City, Utah and Mackay, Idaho. She was a graduate of Mackay high school, took business training at Idaho Technical Institute and the University of Washington. She was a school teacher at St. Anthony, Idaho and in South Dakota.

Her first husband, William P. Fulk preceded her in death Mrs. Elgan owned and operated Edith's Dress Shop in Mackay for many years. On Dec. 1, 1945, she was married to Jesse Elgan at Dillon, Mont. They then farmed at Stevensville, Mont. and near Nyssa. Mrs. Elgan died Jan. 3, 1968 at Nyssa.

Mrs. Elgan was a member of Nyssa Methodist church; a member and past matron of Harmony Chapter No. 44, Order of Eastern Star at Mackay and a past grand officer of Idaho Eastern Star.

The deceased is survived by two step-sons, Jesse H. Elgan of Mesa, Ariz., Grover Elgan, Brigham City, Utah, and one step-daughter, Nellie Wight of Brigham City, Utah.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH NOTES

The family worship service at Faith Lutheran church will be held at 8 o'clock this evening, August 28, with Bob Ure speaking. He will be a junior at Oregon State university, this fall and is a layman of Faith Lutheran. He will also speak during the 10:30 a.m. service Sunday, August 31.

Lauren Wright will conduct the liturgical part of this evening's service, with Danny Nichols assisting during the Sunday service.

Some folks practice what they preach, others practice preaching.

HOW DEEP ?

BY GEORGE HAGEDORN

Chief Economist, National Association of Manufacturers

Regular readers will know that this column believes that some sort of an economic slowdown -- at least a replacement of the present boom by less ebullient conditions -- is necessary if the inflation is to be ended. Furthermore, we believe that such a slowdown will in fact occur at some time in the reasonable near future.

The time has come when perhaps we should go beyond these conclusions and speculate -- it can't be more than speculation -- on the nature and duration of the coming slowdown. There are really two questions: First, how severe does the economic setback need to be, and how long does it need to last, effectively to end the inflation and break the inflationary psychology which is now its chief motive power? Second, how deep and how prolonged will the slowdown in fact be, given the likely political reaction to it?

To us oldsters any consideration of a slowdown naturally raises the spectre of 1929 and its aftermath -- a decade of continuous depression. Let us rule out at the start of any repetition of that sad history. Certainly a setback of that severity and duration is not needed as a corrective to the present inflation. And it is inconceivable that the nation's monetary system would again be so badly mismanaged as to permit a one-third reduction in the available money supply, which was the case between 1929 and 1933.

At the other extreme, the mildest and briefest economic setback we can think of is the slowdown which occurred in the first part of 1967. It didn't even qualify for inclusion in the official list of recessions. Industrial production dropped only 2-1/2% from the peak levels of the end of 1966. By mid-1967 production was on its way up again and by year end it had gone above the previous peak. The unemployment rate showed scarcely any effect of the slowdown, and the curve of total personal income continued up with no visible hesitation.

Can we, this time, possibly get away with anything as mild and as brief as the 1967 slowdown? It doesn't seem likely. In the first place, the 1967 slowdown did not do the job of ending the inflation which had begun to grip the economy in 1965 and 1966. The quick and complete recovery meant that inflation had no time to lose any of its momentum. It was able to go on to the bigger and more spectacular inflation we had had since.

At the end of 1966 we had an inflation raising prices at a rate of about 3% a year, and it had lasted two years. If the 1967 slowdown is unable to stop that trend, it is hard to believe that any slowdown of comparable magnitude could suppress the present inflation which is of four years duration and now moving at about 7% a year. Of course, to say that something more severe will necessarily occur. Perhaps our leaders might grow concerned when the slowdown persisted and reverse existing policy decisions, thus restoring the inflation. That is what happened in 1967. Let's hope they will have more determination this time. The country has had two more years to see how bad inflation can get if you don't deal with it firmly and persistently.

Besides, we are not at all sure that, even if government was willing to accept resumed inflation as the price for getting out of the coming slowdown, they could necessarily do so at will. After four years of accelerating inflation, the economy has excesses to work off. A downturn may have gained enough momentum to keep going even after policy reversals by government -- although not of course indefinitely.

Well, we have ruled out another 1929 and another 1967. What, in between these two extremes, is likely to occur? Our guess is that something like the three-year period 1958 through 1960 will be needed to do the anti-inflationary job re-

do so might mean that we would ultimately have an even worse setback to face as the result of a renewed and accelerated inflation.

QUOTES

from The Press

"The railroads dominate in long haul volume transportation because they can haul almost anything, anywhere, anytime and they can do it for one-fifth the cost of trucking and one-nineteenth the cost of air freight.

"Their \$27 billion in physical assets are assets to the nation and the railroads are helping to use those assets, as in urban renewal and development projects, to improve the quality of the national life. And railroads are improving their services and evolving into still more efficient, customer-oriented transportation systems." - Modern Railroads

"Future growth of the population will help the railroads. More people means more freight. Railroads should have an inside track on their chief competitors in landing a bigger share of this market. To begin with, railroads have the inherent advantage of offering the most economic land transportation available.

"Also, the trucker is finding increasingly congested highways and shrinking distances between metropolitan areas working against him. Barges, which already provide by far the slowest service, will eventually have to pay something for the use of waterways on which they have a free ride.

"The airlines are running into such high costs for equipment that they will find it increasingly difficult to keep their rates down to a competitive level. This will lead more traffic to the rails." - Missouri Pacific News

WISDOM AND CHAMPAGNE BUBBLES

We recently came across an article by Bandleader Lawrence Welk in a newspaper called Christian Economics. The piece was entitled "Guaranteed Wage and Human Dignity" and presented the musician's views on the guaranteed annual income. This is the proposal that would dole out a fixed sum of money to every family in the United States whether they work or not.

Mr. Welk cited his own childhood as an example of poverty and how he learned the value and satisfaction of working for a living. He wrote: "A human being is far too valuable to be paid off in money. A human being grows and prospers through the dignity of work." He further stated the alternative to the guaranteed annual income: "Rather than give a man money, simply because he exists. . . let us educate him to the glory that can be found in work. . . and then bend every effort towards helping him find and hold a job."

Unfortunately, space will not allow the reprinting of the piece at full length, but we would like to share a few paragraphs with you that we believe provide good reasons for opposing a guaranteed handout. Mr. Welk wrote: "To my way of thinking this is a negative approach which does not solve the basic problem. Instead of inspiring and helping a man fulfill his potential by working to support himself and his family, it actually encourages him to sit back and do nothing, secure in the knowledge that the government will take care of him. This destroys his initiative and his will to succeed. It robs him of his natural human dignity, and even the right to direct his own life.

"I am also concerned about the effect such a guaranteed wage plan would have on our children. A child raised in an atmosphere of defeat and apathy, and taught to expect that his every need will be taken care of whether he works or not, stands little chance of developing a strong character. His own natural eagerness to learn and to grow and to excel is cut off at the very beginning of his life, and he may never know the thrill of achievement on his own. A child who is encouraged early to earn extra pennies by shining shoes or selling newspapers or doing household tasks, stands a much better chance of achieving his goal than a child who is taught to do nothing."

Postal Promotions Come Hard

About 85 per cent of all postal workers are in the lowest five levels with top annual pay of slightly above \$8,000 after 21 years of service, according to the Kappale Commission report. This is the study issued last year which is inspiring current efforts in Washington for postal reforms.

Eight out of ten postal workers enter and retire from the service at the same grade level, the Commission said. This promotion system which "stifles employee motivation and incentive" is a major reason why the Commission recommended removing the post office from politics and creating self-supporting postal corporation wholly owned by the federal government.

Prices Up Again

Inflation watchers recorded a new high in the Consumer Price Index for the last week in July. It jumped to 127.6 compared with 120.9 for the same week a year earlier, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The index is based on 1957-59 prices equaling 100.

New Eyes For The Needy

"These glasses were my grammy's, maybe someone else's grammy can use them."

The note was written in a childish hand, wrapped around a pair of eyeglasses and mailed to "New Eyes For The Needy," a Short Hills, N.J. volunteer organization staffed mostly by housewives.

Some 883,835 pairs of glasses were sent to "New Eyes" last year. They didn't all come with touching notes, but they came from every state and from people of all ages. And they came for the same reason -- a desire on the part of the sender to assist "New Eyes" in bringing the gift of better sight to people who have no one else to help them.

The "New Eyes" volunteers have been on the job for 36 years, and donated reusable glasses have always been the mainstay of the operation. When the organization was incorporated in 1947, the treasury consisted of 47 cents.

Despite this, "New Eyes" has never solicited money. Besides glasses, virtually the only other assistance the 300 volunteers who make up the organization accept is precious metal scrap, silverware, antique and costume jewelry. These are melted down and the money from the reclamation, and from the sale of usable jewelry and silverware donors sometimes send, is used to supply incomes established in 106 hospitals all over the country, Canada and Puerto Rico. They pay for new prescription glasses, or if needed, artificial eyes.

While the emphasis is on helping as many people as possible, as quickly as possible, "New Eyes" volunteers don't close their eyes to individual requests for aid.

In 1968 for instance, "New Eyes" answered the request of a Peace Corp volunteer and sent glasses to the natives of a tiny Pacific island.

Provided glasses for a Vietnam civilian whose poor sight was the subject of a letter from that country written by a U.S. Army private.

Started a fund to aid a mid-western clinic created by medical students and their instructors to assist poor people not eligible for public assistance because of the limited period of their residence.

One of the happiest aspects of providing assistance is the thank you letters which come in from grateful recipients.

Wrote one ten-year-old Missouri girl, "I thank you for making it possible for me to

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BOWL...IT'S FUN

Farmers' League

Starts Oct. 22 - Ends March 31
 (Four - Man Teams)
 9:15 - Tuesday Evenings
 (FOR INFORMATION DIAL 372-3592)

All Other League - Bowling Begins Sept. 2

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