

Nyssa Gate City Journal

67th Year, 27th Issue

The Sugar City

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Thunderegg Capital

Ten Cents

Nyssa Infant Still Critical

A premature baby boy, whose mother died from botulism poisoning last week, remains on the critical list in a Boise hospital.

The boy was born June 20 after his mother, Raquel Gonzales, 32, was admitted to St. Alphonsus Hospital along with her father, Anselmo Sifuentes, 69, both of Nyssa. Both died of botulism poisoning last week.

Health officials said blood tests showed the baby did not have botulism, but is suffering from prematurity problems. They said the baby is believed to be the first in medical history born to a woman suffering from botulism.

Health officials are still looking for the source of the poison-lag.

Payne Renamed To Commission

Joe S. Payne, of Vale, chairman of the Oregon Dairy Products Commission, has been reappointed to a three-year term on the board and Raymond E. Kalina, Scio dairyman, was named to a first term.



JOE S. 'SCOTTY' PAYNE

The appointments were announced by Oregon Governor Tom McCall.

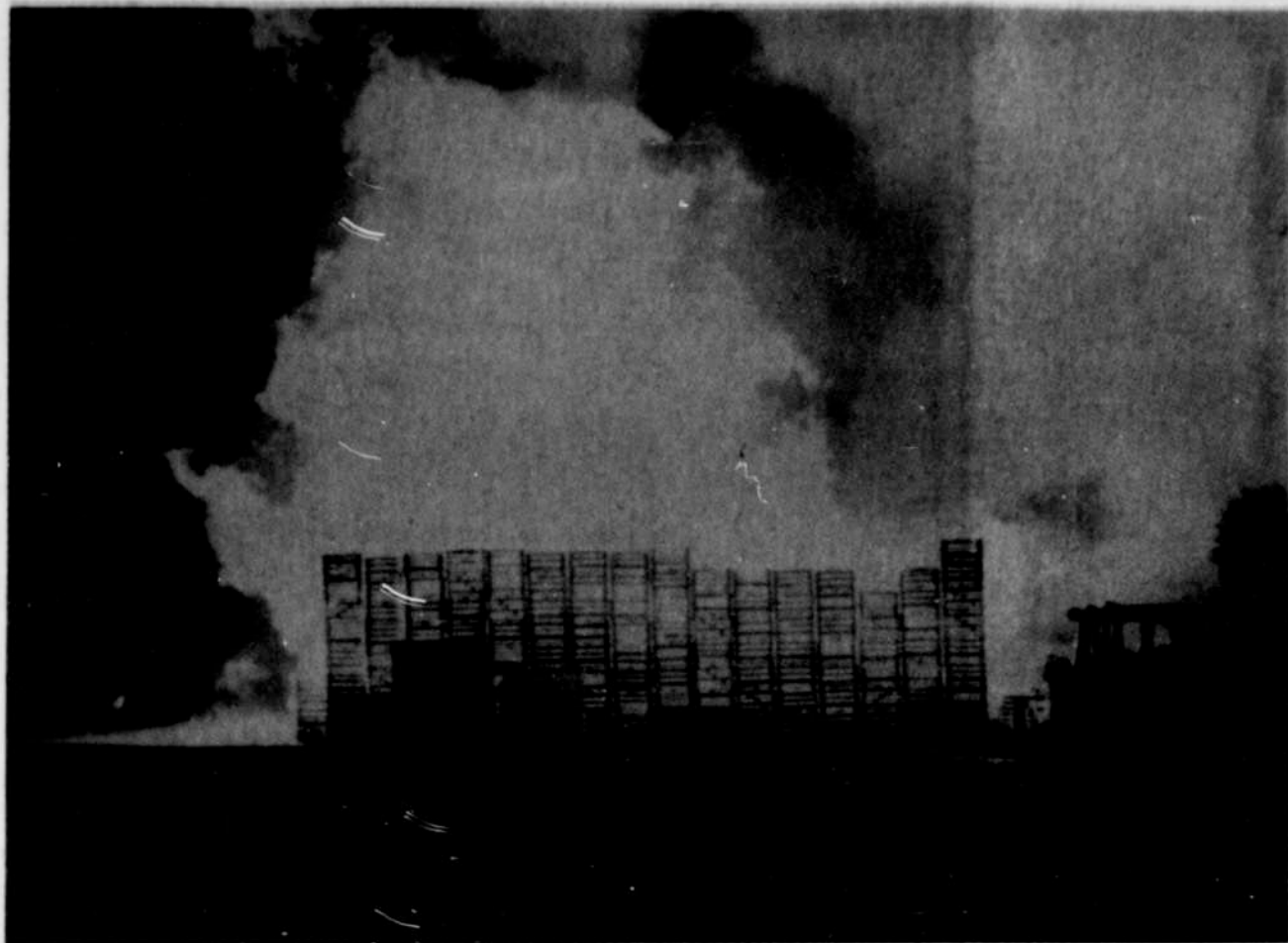
Kalina succeeds Richard M. Lyon, Junction City, on the seven member dairy panel.

Payne operates an 80-acre dairy farm and milks 70 registered Guernseys. He is an officer of the Malheur County Dairy Herd Improvement Association and is a former member of the Oregon Dairy Council, Oregon Guernsey Breeders Association and the Malheur County Dairy Board.

Car Body Smashing Machine To Be In County

Masher Incorporated, based in Medford, Oregon, will be in Malheur County, with a car body smashing machine. Malheur County, The Bureau of Land Management, and the Oregon State Highway Division are coordinating efforts to concentrate car bodies so that they can be smashed and removed. July 27 is the date tentatively set for the smasher.

Four sites have been designated in the county as car smashing locations. These are the Vale City Dump, the county landfill at Lytle Blvd., Burns Junction on U. S. 95 and Oregon Highway 78, and McDermitt. Residents with abandoned autos are requested to take them to one of



3,000 ONION CRATES burst into flames in the J.R. Simplot Co. yards, with flames spreading to nearby warehouse.

SPECTACULAR BLAZE DAMAGES J. R. SIMPLOT WAREHOUSE, LOSS OVER \$100,000

Shortly after 8:50 p.m. last Thursday, June 28, the Nyssa fire siren started to wail. Firemen running out of their homes to look for the fire witnessed a towering column of flames and smoke roaring up from the northeast part of town.

When the first crews of Nyssa volunteer firemen reached the scene, an area bounded by N. 1st, Street, Walnut and Green Avenue and the Union Pacific railroad tracks, they discovered a stack of 2,500 to 3,000 wooden onion crates feeding the 70-foot tower of flames.

The crates belonged to the J.R. Simplot Company, a Boise-based firm, and were stacked near the company's processing plant, located at 2 Walnut Ave.

A high southerly wind rolled the flames through the neatly-stacked crates and in a matter of minutes the entire pile was ablaze.

Heat from the fire caused nearby power poles to catch fire and started to pop light fixtures attached to them. White-hot showers of sparks, coming from burr-through powerlines, stood out against the smoke-darkened sky, the air was filled with a static charge of heat, smoke and excitement.

Arriving just after the trucks, fireman Ralph Lawrence of Nyssa said, "We've fought pallet fires before, so we knew there was nothing we could do to save them."

"We concentrated on trying to save the adjacent buildings," said Lawrence.

Just after 9:00 p.m., Nyssa Chief of Police Alvin Allen arrived on the scene and sent out a request for additional men and equipment.

"When I saw the flames and the wind," said Allen, "I didn't think we'd be able to stop it before it reached Main Street."

Also, Chief Allen started to alert shed owners in the area to be ready to empty their buildings if the fire started to spread.

Homes across the alley from the burning mountain of crates started to smoke and blister on the outside walls closest to the fire.

"Somebody help us," pleaded a young woman standing in the street, "we've got to get the stuff out of this house."

A cluster of people broke from the crowd standing on the west side of 1st Street and rushed into the smoking house. One man picked up a garden hose and started to spray the rear wall of the house.

A stream of men, women and children snaked in and out of the house with arms loaded. In a few minutes a pile of furniture and personal belongings sat outside the house near the curb.

Two homes near the flames had the furniture removed, but neither one caught fire.

One of the homes emptied belonged to Jack Robinson, 522 N. 1st St., and it did receive slight damage on the roof.

"I heard the fire siren and went out the back door to see where the fire was," said Robinson. "I saw the north end

of that stack of crates was burning, so I grabbed the hose and started to water down the house 'cause I knew there was no point in trying to fight the fire with a garden hose."

Robison's neighbor Mrs. Mary McConnell, 528 N. 1st St., lost her garage to the flames and feared for her home. After firemen saved the house, the elderly Mrs. McConnell was comforted by friends and neighbors who attempted to calm her.

Two additional trucks, one from Ontario and one from Adrian, had a difficult time reaching the fire because of the crowds. However, after they arrived and got set up they were able to turn their attention to the burning crates and the J.R. Simplot building located about 200 feet from the fire.

A five-gallon container of liquid insulating compound standing next to the building exploded with a crack and a flash of white flames. A sheet of fire rolled up the side of the metal building and over its roof. Firemen gave up on the burning crates and rushed to control the fire within the Simplot building.

With the added crews, the firefighters were able to direct their efforts toward saving the building; one crew forced an entrance through the side and took a hose into the smoking plant, another crew played a stream of water onto the roof and another fireman made an entry through the large loading-doors at the front of the building.

At about 10:05 p.m. an Ontario fireman said, "I think we've got it controlled inside the warehouse. Fortunately there wasn't much inside to burn."

Nyssa Fire Chief Delbert Malloy said that the entire blaze was under control at 10:30

p.m., but mop-up crews remained on the fire until about 2:00 a.m. Friday, June 29.

Emergency equipment and personnel on the fire included: 3 trucks from Nyssa, 1 from Ontario, 1 from Adrian, 11 Nyssa police officers, 2 State Police cars, and 1 Sheriff's deputy.

Only one injury was reported. An employee of the J.R. Simplot Co., Butch Overstreet, received minor burns to his right hand and arm when he drove a tractor away from the flames.

Even as the firemen started their mop-up operation, crews from Idaho Power Co. started making emergency repairs to restore power to the area. According to Dale Adams, Nyssa district manager for the power firm, the crews had restored service by 2:00 a.m. Friday.

Also, telephone crews working at the fire site Friday afternoon had service restored before 5:00 p.m.

Friday afternoon Al Vogt, area manager for the J.R. Simplot Co., was at the fire scene looking over the damage.

"I really can't say enough about those Nyssa and Ontario crews," said Vogt. "Somehow they got in the back of the building and saved the back part of the place."

Vogt said damage would probably run over \$100,000, adding that his company's insurance would cover all the fire-damage to the adjacent homes.

Replacing the 2,500 to 3,000 onion crates may be a problem, according to Vogt, but the company expects to be ready for "business as usual" on or about July 20.

As of Tuesday, July 2, the cause of the fire was still unknown, according to Chief Allen, but police are still investigating.

Crowd Conduct at Fire Forces Crackdown By Nyssa Police

Police officers at the scene of the J.R. Simplot Co. fire last Thursday night had a difficult time with the crowds of curious people who rushed to the area to watch the fire.

According to the police, firemen were hampered in their efforts to control the blaze, emergency vehicles had a problem reaching the scene and in at least one case a car was driven over a firehose.

Alvin Allen, Nyssa chief of police, said Friday afternoon that he is through putting up with such behavior. No citations were issued Thursday night, but according to Allen, "they can be expected in the future. Particularly by cars pursuing the fire trucks."

"It's bad enough to have foot traffic around there," said Allen, "but when they drive in and park their cars all over the place that's going too far."

"For a while there," said Allen, "I didn't think we'd be able to get the truck from Ontario through to the fire."

Officers at the Thursday fire

said people largely ignored their instructions and one officer said the crowds "will cost someone a home before long" unless stopped.

The following codes governing public behavior at fires and will be applied by Nyssa officers in the future, according to Chief Allen.

According to Nyssa city codes, "it is unlawful for a person at or near a fire to conduct himself in a disorderly manner or to refuse to observe promptly any order of any member of the fire department or to resist, obstruct or hinder any member of the fire department."

Also, according to Nyssa city codes, "all members of the fire department are endowed with the same powers of arrest as are conferred upon peace officers."

In addition, Oregon codes prohibit "following within 500 feet of a fire apparatus, parking within 2 blocks of a point where a fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm or within 3 blocks of a point where a fire is in progress."

EQUITABLE SAVINGS DECLARES DIVIDEND

The Board of Directors of Equitable Savings and Loan Association declared a cash dividend of 6¢ per share at their monthly meeting on June 26, 1973, in Portland, Oregon.

According to William E. Love, president and chief executive officer, the 6¢ per share dividend will be paid on July 25, 1973, to stockholders of record at the close of business on July 10, 1973.

Equitable has paid cash dividends on its capital stock in each year since 1947. Equitable Savings, with assets of \$590 million, operates 36 offices in the states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Dr. Clay Morgan on Boise School Board

Dr. Clayton Morgan, a Boise physician and surgeon, has been appointed to the Boise School Board to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Neal Newhouse last month.

Dr. Morgan, 45, is a former Nyssa resident and physician, and the son of Mrs. Frank Morgan.

Diane Thomas Crowned Malheur Dairy Princess

Diane Thomas, 17, Adrian was named Malheur County Dairy Princess last Friday evening at the annual Dairy Princess banquet at the East-side Cafe. Over 200 persons attended the banquet.

Miss Thomas was also given the title of Miss Congeniality. Terry Lynn Jantzen, Vale, was named first runner-up, and Dee Anna Chamberlain, also Vale, was the third contestant for the county title.

Terry Chamberlain, last year's dairy princess and also from Adrian, crowned the new princess. She told about her travels throughout the state, and about the State Dairy Princess contest, which will be held early in 1974.

Adrian Students Earn Honors

212 undergraduate students at Eastern Oregon State College in La Grande earned 3.5 or better during spring term, according to Dr. James Hathhorn, Dean of students.

Included in the listing were David Phelps, Joann Timmerman and Carolyn Ward, all of Adrian.

UO JOURNALISM STUDENTS HONORED

Twenty-nine journalism students at the University of Oregon have been announced winners of scholarship and awards

Among the award winners are two students from Nyssa. They are Jeanine Saito, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Saito, and Richard Seitz, Eugene, who is spending this summer in Nyssa working for the Gate City Journal.

Jeanine is one of six journalism students, all graduates of Oregon high schools who plan careers in the news-editorial area of journalism. They were each awarded a \$250 scholarship from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association.

Richard was one of three journalism students honored for outstanding scholarship. He was recipient of the William G. Gurney Memorial Award.

U.S. Savings Bond Sales Up

U.S. Savings Bonds sales in Oregon continued their strong upward trend during the month of May. The U.S. Treasury sales figures for May released today by State Chairman Thomas Prudeaux reveal that Oregonians purchased \$4,338,315 worth of bonds during the month. This is an increase of \$338,300 over May of last year, boosting Oregon's sales year-to-date to \$23,364,168.

The true strength of the stimulated activity in Savings Bonds is best attested to by the fact that for the 32nd consecutive month sales have far outstripped redemptions in the state. Currently, Oregonians' total holdings of Series E and H bonds is in excess of \$500 million.

Local Bond representatives feel that the main motivating factors stimulating sales are the increased public awareness of the tax advantages afforded for retirement programs and college education plans. Currently, local volunteers are conducting the annual Payroll Savings Campaign. The starting number of participants increasing their allotments leads to this conclusion.

Nationally, May E and H bond sales were the highest on record for any month since the H Bond was issued in June 1952. May E and H bond sales exceeded redemptions at cost price by \$254 million. The cash value of Series E and H Bonds and Freedom Shares outstanding on May 31 reached an all-time peak of \$59.7 billion. The accumulation of interest during 1973 on outstanding E Bonds alone amounted to \$1,084 million.

Jim Leslie, Malheur County Savings Bond Chairman, said sales have reached 49 percent of the 1973 goal of \$340,000 through May.

College Transfer Program Available

Eastern Oregon College, La Grande, Oregon, and Treasure Valley Community College have entered into an agreement whereby students can attend Treasure Valley Community College for their first two years then transfer to Eastern Oregon College and complete a bachelor's degree in business-economics. While at Treasure Valley Community College the student may take 30 to 40 credits in technical agriculture which will be fully transferable to Eastern Oregon College. The student will graduate from Eastern Oregon College with a major in business-economics and a minor in agriculture. This program is a great deal more liberal than the usual transfer program to a four-year college or university. At present Treasure Valley Community College has a two-year curriculum in agricultural business which will fit very well into this new four-year program.



MRS. MARTHA E. ROMANS

She assumes her new duties after having entered the Postal Service in 1970.

The appointee is a native of Butler, Oklahoma, and presently resides in Westfall. She came to Oregon (Willow Creek Area) in 1958.

John G. Rost, Sectional Center Manager-Postmaster, Boise, installed her as Postmaster at Westfall on June 29.

Nyssa Artist Displays Paintings

Showing his paintings for the first time at the Nyssa Public Library is Mr. Earl Webb of Nyssa.

Mr. Webb has taught himself to paint. The materials that he uses to paint with are canvas and canvas board oils.

Some paintings which can be seen during the month of July are: "Blue Colonial Puppy," "My Family," "The Big One," and "Ducks Taking Off."

WEATHER

DATE	MAX	MIN
June 27	99	64
June 28	98	65
June 29	90	66
June 30	81	62
July 1	78	50
July 2	90	47
July 3		53
Owyhee Reservoir Storage		
7/3/73	612,450	Acre Feet
7/3/72	670,320	Acre Feet

SEACOG Announces New Office Hours

The Southeast Oregon Council of Governments (SEACOG) announces that effective July 9, their office in the basement of the Vale City Hall will be closed during the noon hour.

The new office hours will be from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 5 p.m.



NYSSA LIONS CLUB OFFICERS FOR THE 1973-74 Year were installed Tuesday evening at a ladies night steak feed in South City Park. Robert McConaha, ex-District Governor from Ontario, was the installing officer.

Officers, from left front row, are Dan Martin, secretary; the Rev. John Worral, 3rd vice president; Lauren Wright, president; Otis Smith, lion tamer; Don Young, director; and Paul Kunkel, 2nd vice president.

Back row, Dirick Neary, director; Gale Christensen, director; Gene Stunz, tail twister; and the Rev. William Lewis, director.

Officers absent for the installation were Ward Lundy, first vice president; and the Rev. David Martinez, treasurer. Gene Chester is the outgoing president.

Roy Wild was presented with a 25-year pin signifying 25 years of service to his community through Lions International.



REPRESENTING OREGON AT THE eleventh annual National Youth Science Camp at Bartow, West Virginia are Rod Lewis, left, of Nyssa and George Sampson of McMinnville.

Two delegates, selected by their governors on the basis of high achievements in science, represent each of the 50 states. The boys will be involved in a concentrated program including computer pro-

gramming, nature photography, lectures by top scientists and teachers, and sports activities.

The 100 campers are guests of the State of West Virginia for three weeks, starting June 24, and they are scheduled to take trips to the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at nearby Greentank, and to Washington, D.C., FOR TOURS OF THE Capitol and the Smithsonian Institute.