



Nyssa Gate City Journal

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69th Year, 48th Issue

The Sugar City

Nyssa, Oregon Thursday, November 27, 1975

Thunderegg Capital

15' Per Copy

Bill Hipp, 86, Reminisces About Early Days In Nyssa

by Pat Savage

On the first day of April, 1905, William "Bill" Hipp arrived in New York from Stuttgart, Germany. His father had died when he was twelve years old and after helping his mother on their small farm for a couple of years, he decided he was meant to do bigger and better things than haul water to the cows. So he made plans to join his brother Carl, who was working on the KS&D Ranch near Nyssa.

He spoke no English upon his arrival but claimed the first word he learned was a cuss word. His vocabulary grew as did his knowledge of our country and our customs.

The two brothers worked about a month near Nyssa and then went to Brogan where they worked for the Logan family. This was where young Bill learned how to buckaroo.

Two months later Bill went to work for Gus Schweizer on the Owyhee breaking horses and a month later he went to work on the Charlie Thompson hay crew.

Later that fall the two brothers worked for \$1.50 a day plus board on the Highland Dam above Boise. Here Bill met "Doc" Marshall from Nyssa. He remembers coming to Boise that Christmas to spend their script money. Later he found employment with the Lemp Brothers and seemed at last to have found a home because he stayed with this job for two years. Funny thing though he was feeding cattle and farming similar to what he had done in Germany.

1908 found him back in Nyssa where he worked on the railroad going to Homedale. In reminiscing, Bill says "I drove two horses and a wheeler in dust that was six

to twelve inches deep and the flies were so thick you brushed them off your face with one hand and scooped food into your mouth as fast as you could with the other." 1909 found him driving four horses and a fresno and helping to build the railroad going to Juntura. Later that year this young man learned about sheep when he fed them for Butler Brothers near Cairo Junction.

Deciding to find out what people were doing in Montana drew young Bill away from Nyssa in 1910. He was eager to learn what people meant when they said "harvest." So he farmed and harvested in different parts of Montana, later going to Minnesota, and later farming for eleven years in Leeds, North Dakota. Here he also met his bride to be, Miss Lena Elizabeth Ernest. "I remember driving cook car, tending camp, harvesting and it was all hard work. We slept in the mounds of hay in those days."

Wandering feet and the urge to move brought him and his wife and family back to Nyssa in 1928. They bought 160 acres near Adrian and later sold it. Twenty-two acres near the Cole School in Boise became the home place, but as Bill was feeding cattle in Nyssa and farming, he was never home. Mrs. Hipp put her foot down and announced "The girls won't go to high school in Boise and I'm coming to Nyssa. I'm tired of living alone."

Later Bill and Herb Fisher became partners and bought 10,000 acres the other side of Westfall. This venture found the ambitious man living in a tent for two years. Mrs. Hipp refused to join her husband because "The pack rats were so big they would carry my boots off at night," remembers Bill. Anxious to have her with him, he at last built a 28' x 16' cinder block cabin with a fire place. It was nice and they enjoyed living there after he got rid of the rats by trapping and getting a dog who just didn't like rats.

After selling the place in Westfall, the couple moved to their home on 16 Green Avenue in Nyssa on Christmas Day, 1946. He and his lovely Lena lived together for fifty years. She passed away in 1965. "We had some hard times but they were good times, too," Bill says.

When asked what Nyssa was like when he first came here he says, "The mud was knee deep to a tall Indian." The Hench Store (which sold everything) was located where the Gate City Journal office is, there was a lively stable, the old blacksmith shop was where Farmers Feed and Seed is, a saddle and harness shop was where Michaels Pharmacy now stands and the Wilson Ditch ran through town. Dr. Sarazin had his office in a little house and kept his horses and buggies in his barn where you now find the Nyssa Co-op. By the railroad tracks stood the old depot and a saloon. In 1905 or 1906 the Boydeils operated a General Store in the Old Western Hotel Building.

"I've been about everything but a banker," smiles Bill. "I've been a saloon swamper and washed and filled medicine bottles in 50 degrees below zero in Minnesota, logged, traveled and learned a lot about people and places. I remember sometime in the 1940's I was moving cattle and my horse slipped in the mud and fell on my ankle. It hurt pretty bad but we had to finish the job so I rode all day. When I got home that night I couldn't get my boot off so I soaked boot and all and finally got it off. Come in to see Doc" Maulding and he took one look at that swollen leg and after a few choice words and a shake of his head, he set my leg."

Later that fall "Doc" Marshall wanted me to ride with him and his wife in the Legion Parade. We were by



WHEN THE LARGER COLT WAS ROPED during the roundup, his smaller buddy decided to join him in captivity rather than break up a great friendship. Of his own free

will, he followed his buddy for over two miles, and stayed with him when they were put into the corral.

BLM Photo

Wild Horse Roundup Halted By Fund Lack

Lack of funds has caused the largest and most efficient wild horse roundup since the passage of the 1971 wild horse and burro act to be halted, George R. Gurr, Vale District, BLM manager, announced today.

255 wild horses out of a goal of 350 have been gathered out of the rugged Owyhee River breaks, 30 miles south of Vale, Oregon, by Vale District wild horse specialist Jerry Wilcox and his twelve-man team.

"Each horse we've caught in this roundup has cost about \$300.00," Gurr said

"which is about as efficient as possible where we must use mounted riders to trap the horses into the trap."

The horses have been shipped to Burns where there are facilities to hold and manage them until they are distributed under the private maintenance program. "The costs of the private maintenance program are fixed," Gurr commented, "and currently comprise 20 percent of the \$300.00 cost incurred in the gathering."

"We are requesting additional funds to enable us to continue with the roundup" Gurr concluded, "the money for the present operation has come directly from our regular range management program and if we do not receive some type of relief, there is no way that we will be able to continue operations."

Plans have been approved in Washington, D.C. for the Vale District to capture 50 more horses in the Owyhee breaks and 150 in the Jackies Butte area southwest of Jordan Valley.

Foster homes are being sought for the horses, especially older ones. The Burns office BLM has outstanding requests for colts that are a year old but are badly in need of homes for older mares and studs. Anyone interested in providing a home for a wild horse should write the District Manager BLM Burns Oregon, for information.

County Assessor

Provides Booklet

Malheur County Assessor Oscar Bratton says that a new booklet, now available in his office, will help the public better understand his responsibilities.

Bratton says the 12-page booklet summarizes the principal duties of the Assessor as prescribed by law and how these duties fit into the picture of local property taxation in Oregon. The most important of these duties is estimating the market and special assessed values of all taxable property and calculating the taxes to be paid by each property owner.

"This publication should clear up some misunderstandings about the Assessor's job," Bratton said, "and I encourage people to pick one up when they are in the area of my office."

OSBA Elects Officers, Stunz 2nd Vice President

Barbara Klein was elected today as president of the Oregon School Boards Association at the annual OSBA convention being held here.

Mrs. Klein becomes the second woman to hold the top position with the school boards. She served as first vice-president of OSBA last year and was second vice-president during 1973-74.

A resident of Forest Grove and a nine-year member on the local school board, Mrs. Klein has served on numerous local, state, school and civic committees.

Currently she is serving as chairperson of the Oregon School Study Council, is a member and past-president of the Greater Portland Metropolitan School Boards Association, and is chairperson of the advisory board for the Forest Grove Youth Service Center.

Joining Mrs. Klein as new officers for the 1975-76 year are first vice-president Jonathan Newman and second vice-president Gene Stunz. Newman is a board member from the Portland Public School District serving in that capacity for nine years. He was chairman of the Portland board in 1971 and 1974. Newman was second vice-president of OSBA last year and was the 1973-74 presi-

dent of the Greater Portland Metropolitan School Boards Association.

A partner in the law firm of Hardy, Butler, McEwen, Weiss and Newman, he co-authored and edited "Liberty and the Law," a textbook of case studies on the Bill of Rights. The book is used in Oregon high schools and was a joint project of the Oregon State Bar and the Portland Public Schools.

Stunz is from Nyssa, where he has been on the local school board for 15 years. A director of OSBA last year, he is an attorney in Nyssa.

Stunz was board chairman in 1964-65 and served as chairman of the negotiating team for the board in 1973-74.

Elected to directors' positions for 1975-76 were Leslie Carlsen, board member, Redmond School District; Clayton W. Hannon, board member, Lynch School District, Portland; Walter Hoffbuh, board member, Ashland Kingsley, board member, Crowfoot School District; and Kenneth N. Knutson, board member, Sheridan School District and Yamhill County Intermediate Education District.

Re-elected to the position of director were Donald J. Rice, board member, Douglas County Intermediate Education District; and Carol Williams, board member, Tillamook School District.

Salesman Joins Mel Beck Firm



Melvin Ballantyne

A long-time Nyssa resident has joined the Mel Beck Real Estate firm as a salesman, and will handle listings on commercial, farm, ranch and home properties.

Melvin B. Ballantyne came to Nyssa with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Ballantyne, in 1943. He graduated from Nyssa High School in 1955, served on a mission with the LDS Church in Colorado and New Mexico, and then attended Brigham Young University where he graduated in 1962.

He married the former Ada Chandler of Weiser and the couple have nine children, and live on Route 1, Nyssa. Mel has been farming with his brother David, and has been in the real estate business for the last year, working for Grigg Brothers & Butler of Ontario, before joining Mel Beck.

Local Students

Honored at OSU

A total of 295 Oregon State University juniors have been honored for scholastic accomplishments.

The juniors were recognized for having outstanding grades during their first two years at the university. The Junior Accolades program is sponsored by Phi Kappa Phi, national scholastic honor society.

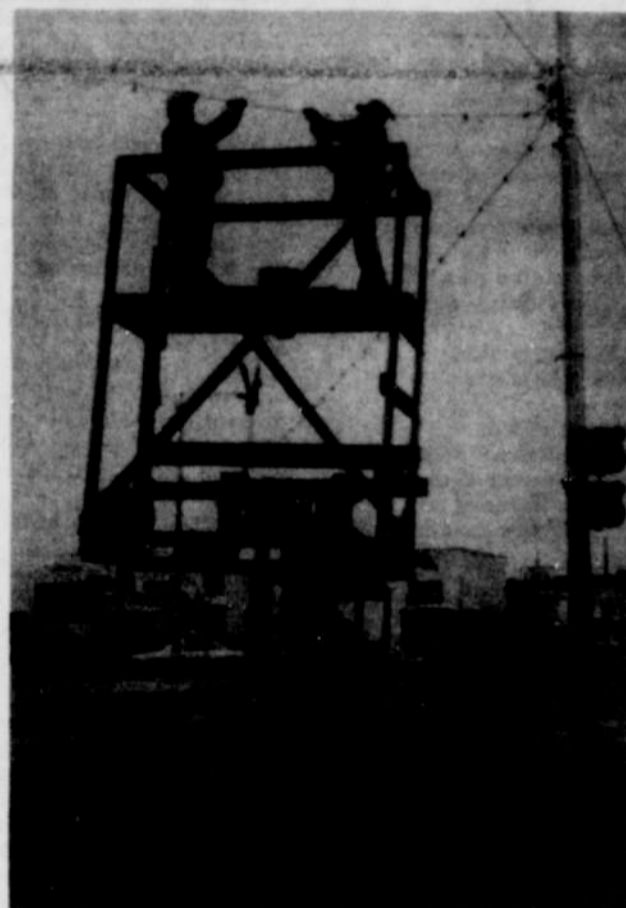
Juniors honored include Robert and Sylvia Clark, Route 2, Nyssa, Agriculture and Science Majors, respectively.

Blood Drawing

The Red Cross Blood Drawing held at the Eagles Hall in Nyssa is scheduled for Monday, December 1 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch will be served.

WEATHER

DATE	MAX.	MIN
November 19	48	19
November 20	39	21
November 21	43	23
November 22	40	21
November 23	42	32
November 24	45	33
November 25	29	
Owyhee Reservoir Storage	11-24-75 536,690 Acre Feet	11-24-74 388,100 Acre Feet



CITY CREWS INSTALL NEW LIGHTS for Christmas on Main Street. New lights and decorations were purchased by the Nyssa Chamber of Commerce, with chamber members working one evening last week to install the light sockets onto the new wires.

Steve Marez and Gene Orr are stringing lights, Ray Page is driving the lift truck, and Dean Winchester is shown directing the operation.

Christmas Window Display Contest Set

A Christmas window display contest will be held in Nyssa this year, with Betty Rieb in charge of the committee. All businesses are encouraged to decorate a Christmas window, and many have committed themselves, according to Mrs. Rieb.

Prizes will be given to the four best windows, with John Messick in charge of the judging. First prize will be \$30, second prize \$20, third \$15 and fourth prize \$5. Judging will take place on December 4.

Business firms committed to the window displays are Tom Moore Company, Raggedy Ann's Pad and Knit Knacks, Merc Department Store, Paulus Jewelry, Rexall Drug, Bracken's Department Store and First National Bank of Oregon.

Rieb's Foodland, Farmers Insurance, Nolan Field Insurance, Owyhee Beauty Shop, Twilight Cafe, Idaho Power Company, Michael's Pharmacy, Coast to Coast Store, Wilson Brothers Department Store, Nyssa Co-op Supply, Zimmerman Plumbing and Heating, Gambles, and Nyssa Insurance.

Bass "76" Service, Johannesen-Adams Motors, M & W Market, U. S. National Bank, Firestone Store, Eastman Insurance, Kassman Chevron, Beauty Nook, Kerby, Danford & Fuson Clinic, Fangan Floral, B & M Equipment Co., Nyssa Auto Parts, Spic & Span Cleaners, Stout Appliance, Olympic, Stunz Lumber, Ideal Gas, and Ron's Shell Service.

Town Crier

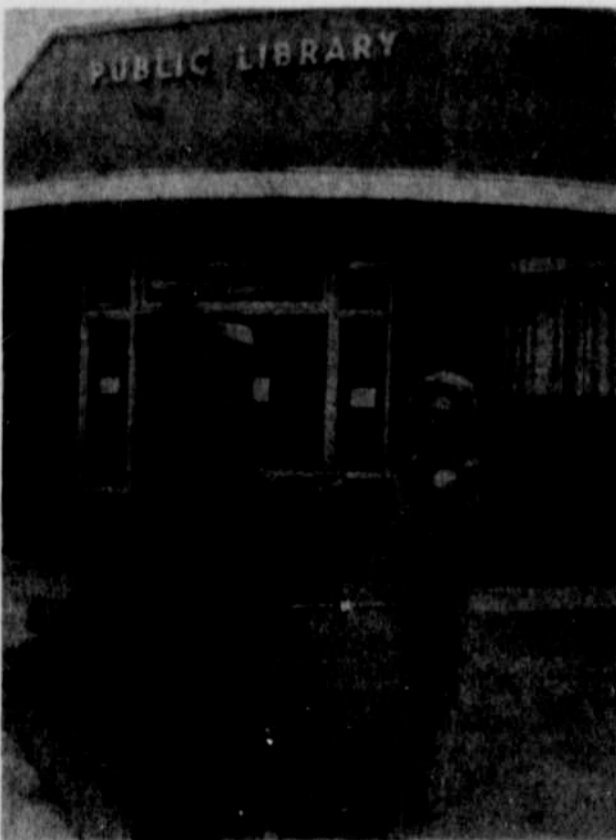
by Pat Savage

We take so many things for granted these days and in our fast changing way of life, nothing seems impossible to obtain. If you can't produce the real thing, a synthetic is manufactured. But a person cannot live without blood. It takes real blood to replace real blood. You say "It's always available at the hospital or blood bank and besides they don't need any of mine." Blood isn't always available and the blood bank needs many different types of blood. Stop, take time and give a pint of blood at the Eagles Hall, Monday, December 1 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Let's give in the spirit of giving, what we so plentifully have to those who need our help that they may live also.

Well Phase II is about underway. Sounds dramatic doesn't it? I'm talking about the construction of gymnasium and auditorium in the rebuilding of the school. If you haven't seen what has been constructed already, drive by and see for yourself. Great things are happening. The new school will indeed be a real blessing.

Speaking of blessings, why don't we all count our blessings on this Thanksgiving Day. I say bless our Nyssa High School Band and Drill Team and Flag Corps for the beautiful marching, music and performance they gave at the Fairy Land Parade in Boise Saturday. Bless the Honor Band and Honor Choir for giving good performances at the Honor Band and Choir Contest in Kuna Friday and Saturday. Bless our basket ball teams and wrestling teams as they start their seasons. Realize there are many, many blessings to be thankful for but I think our young people are the most precious of blessings we, as a town, have. Bless us adults with the courage, and knowledge, and wisdom and the humility to be better examples for them to follow and light their way with the bright lights of success rather than the dark pit of failure.

Do Have a "Happy Thanksgiving."



A NEW BOOK DROP AT THE NYSSA PUBLIC LIBRARY was installed last week by city crews. City Manager Henry Schneider and Librarian Norma Urry check out the new drive-in drop. It is an old mail box donated by Postmaster Harold Pook and repainted in a city yellow color.

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