# ONTARIO ARGUS cannot all be a Mozart, a Rubens, a Shakespeare, or a Disraeli, but we

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

mails as second-class matter.

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For the past three years the Argus has labored to get something substantial started in the way of civic improvements and we believe with this issue that the matter is well started and that the next few years will see many improvements. This special issue of the Argus is but an indication of what the women are going to do and they will not be satisfied until every residence has a neat yard and the weeds are removed from all the vacant lots. The lesson will be a valuable one to the coming generation and the impression made on the visitors and home folks will be beneficial in many ways. The first of the year seemed a fitting time to start the movement.

It is remarkable what a difference the calendar makes in our life, and what an amount of sentiment it calls But for the caleadar one day forth. would be about the same as another and the first of January would meau no more to us than the first of any other month. But since the calendar has decreed on the authority of the government and scientists that the first of January is the first day of a new year, the iny immediately assumes a peculiar importance.

There is no other day quite like it; none that produce the same varying

can each contribute our share, in our small way, to exait the state by making the community the better for our having lived in it. We cannot Entered in the postoflice at Ontario, all build battleships or railroads, but Oregon for transmission through the we can plant trees and beautify our school grounds and parks. It has been said that if all mankind could be aroused from their habitual lethargy, the world's progress would be

phenomenally rapid. Let us, as individuals, resolve to do our part in making the year 1913 a wonderful one, not only in the history of our fertile valley, but also in that of a greater Ontario.

It will be noted with satisfaction that the special articles for this edition are from the pens of Prof. Shaw, dry farming expert; Prof. French, member of Country Life Commission of Idaho, editor, teacher, scholar; Mrs. French, domestic science and physical culture authority; Geo. McKnight, president of Malheur County Wool Growers association; Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway, representative ploneer woman of Oregon, not only in point of years, but also earliest and most prominent advocate of woman suffrage, and others, all recognized authorities in their special lines.

At this time when "back to the soil" seems almost to have been adopted as the slogan of the American people, we regret that the hundreds of thousands of eastern men ,women and children, in the congested districts, crowding one another for elbow room, content with a meager living salary, and those in the rural districts, vainly nourishing a depleted soil in the effort to make it yield a living for themselves and their families, cannot realize the vast and varied natural resources of the western states. Malheur county, Oregon, is but a part of the great Inland Empire, yet, possessing an area of 9784 square miles, is beckoning with alluring promises to those who wish to settle within her gates.

With apologies to Julian Josephson O, Paw's quit workin' at the mill, An' Maw, she's give up washin'

An' Jim an' me has follered suit-Lan' sakes! It's just a caution The way thet Paw an' Maw an' me's Be'n writin' compositions-Sence Mr. Bain tol' Maw about

Them Argus Cash Subscriptions! They's typewriters in ev'ry room-

An' we jest keep'em buzzin': They's reams o' paper on the floor, An' retricks by the dozen;

Pos'master Sproul is out o' stamps, The mail bag needs additions-Sence Mr. Bain tol' Maw about

Them Argus Cash Subscriptions!

We're livin' on col' vittles-Maw Ain't got no time fer cookin';

Jim's eatin' at a resturant Paw's orful peakid-lookin';

The neighbors acts ez if they had Some purty quair suspicions-Sence Mr. Bain tol' Maw about

Them Argus Cash Subscriptions!

Reader, you are now beholding History again repeated.

## WOMAN'S EDITION ONTARIO ARGUS, JAN. 2, 1913

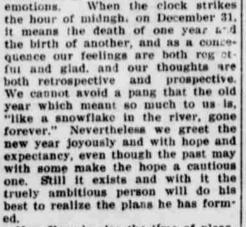
### History of the Public Library.

It is said that Necessity is Mother of many more children than Invention. Chief among these is "Town Improvement, a winsome creature, ever flirting with Opportunity." For example, in 1906, a group of women of Ontario, wishing for better things than preteated themelves at the time, formed themselves into a working body, voluntarily contributed \$55.00, added \$20 from their society's funds and ordered books for that amount. When the books arrived, Mr. L. Adam genercosly offered the use of a vacant building formerly used as a carpenter shop, supplied them with necessary equipment, the ladies worked with paint brushes, scrubbing brushes, hammers and nails, then opened their little reading room. This was the nucleus of the present Ontario library. Whatever is the result of tacir efforts, too much praise cannot be given to these pioneers in the uplift move-.nent, who often at the expens. of personal comfort and convenience, planued and carried their project into effect. This, however, would have been impossible, except through the generossity of r. Adam, who has for six years, furnished, free of rent, a home for the books.

A year later, the library had grown to the point that it became advisable to separate its funds from those of the Work and Win Club, and three years later, or 1910, the club entered into an agreement with the city council, whereby in consideration of their levying a one mill tax for the maintenance of the lib.ary it should "appoint a board of directors for sa 1 ubrary in accordance with law, who shall have the sole control and man agement of said library." This was done and in February, 1912, the bound consisting of Mrs. L. Adam, Mrs. C. C. Dodae, Mrs. E. M. Gregg, Ma Stella Wilson, Mr. E. A. Fraser and Dr. H. H. Whitney assumed control. The ways and means that have been employed to maintain the library have been varied. Two tag days have been observed, teas have been given, book socials held and an annual library ball has been inaugurated. Today as a result of these activities there are 1700 volumes on the shelves and the books of our efficient librarian, Mrs. Stoetzel, show there were 6,696 books loaned out the past year. Today the accommodations are very inadequate and plans are under headway for the establishment of a Carnegie library in our midst. It is tario feels a personal interest in the library and welcomes eagerly the time negle library.



The Bank of Safety and Service.



New Year is also the time of pleasant greetings to others. The wish for a "Happy New Year" is no empty phrase, but a genuine expression of the friendly interest we take in one another. Of course we do not limit our good wishes to the opening days of the year but hope that each day in the whole circle of the year may come ladened with bleasings.

It is a good thinng that we have these special days to relieve the monotony of life and free us from the dull routine of duties in which there is danger of losing ourselves. Were it not for such days as Christmas with its divine message and New Year with its piedsant greetings, our sensibilities would become deadened and we would grow as hard and cold as the yellow gold after which most of us seek.

Readers of the Woman's edition of the Argus, Greeting:

The purpose of the New Year edition is first; to record accurately, succinctly, and in simple language. the story not only of past achievement but also of present accomplishment and future possibilities as told in the history of the Snake river valley. The Ontario Woman's club are sincere beitevers in the three essential elements, earth, air and water; earth, as exemplified in the untold wealth of the doctrine hidden in the rich soil of our bench lands and fruitful valleys; air producing our dry sunshiny climate which means healthful conditions for all; water which by means of irrigation is the magic key for unlocking wondrous riches to the soil-tiller. They are grateful to Mr. Bain who by his courtesy and generosity, made the expression of their beliefs possible. They also wish to express their appreciation of the sympathy and cooperation they have received from others who share their beliefs and are working for the development of community spirit.

No state, no community, is greater than its people. Mathematically speaking, as human beings we are but Mathematically an infinitesimal part of the great universe, the magnitude of which we can but vaguely guess. As individuals, stincts of the inhabitants of com-

Yea, before your eyes unfolding Witness deeds now in the moulding That will have the ancients cheated.

Homer says the Argonauters, They who shipped with Skipper Ja-

Bade farewell to sons and daughters And o'er rough, uncharted waters After golden fleece went chasin'.

Till at last the fleece they spotted, Guarded by a flerce old dragon. Him without delay they potted,

Slezed the fleece, and homeward trotted.

In their Argus water wagon.

Now that old adventure dimin' Which was once the poeet's rapture See an Argus manned by women.

Literary waters swimmin', Setting out the fleece to capture.

Saturday.

trip to Jordan Valley Sunday.

ing to their home Monday.

visited relatives in Ontario Sunday.

Mr. J. C. Lawrence of Vale re-

says that he will not be such a fre-

returning to her home Monday.

his home in the future.

tario Sunday on his way to Boise.

T. G. Clancy of Vale stopped in

Mr. S. E. Orcutt, who has been in

day evening for California in hopes

Mr. and Mrs. Donald McPherson

Mr. H. B. Gruel is confined to his

home with a severe attack of the

spent the holidays at Baker City.

visitor last week.

Vale.

city.

tario.

him.

grippe.

Can we overcome resistance? Well, we're honest, brave and plous And any fleece that's in existence, If it comes in striking distance, ilas small chance of getting past us.

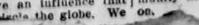
staybe, Reader, you feel badly, . If we happen to be baggin' Certain fleece you needed sadly, But come across and dot it gladly-Think what happened to the dragon.

## Beautifying the Cemetery.

The burial ground situated just southwest of the city of Ontario, and which serves the residents of the city upon the sad occasions when such a place is needed, was purchased jointly by three of the local fraternal organizations. After the land had been dedicated to this purpose, it became evident that some steps should be taken in the way of planting trees, grass and shrubbery, to make the grounds more beautiful and restful to the eyes of those having occasion to visit them. With this idea in view the Ontarlo Cemetery Improvement society

was organized. Since its organization, the society has received financial aid from various sources, and has partly supported itself by raising money in such ways as giving public dinners. A number of cork elms have been presented the society for planting along the fence and driveways.

Provision has been made to secure water for irrigating the grounds and pipe has been laid nearly the full length of the grounds. These call now be watered with the aid of hose and irrigating will be begun in the spring. It is planred to hire a caretaker who will have chage early taker who will have the search enough in the season to make the grounds presentable for E bration day. It cannot be denied that a well-kept cemeter, reflects faverably up-on the thoughfulness all a state in-stincts of the inhabitants of a com-





his home Friday.

Ben Brown and family of Vale spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Jones of Ontario.