

ONTARIO ARGUS

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

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M. E. BAIN, Publisher.

The Vale Enterprise published a lengthy editorial last week which was evidently intended to deceive the people regarding the move to change to county seat from Vale to Ontario. There was one statement in the article nearly true, that in regard to the additional cost to persons living west of Vale, but it failed to state that less than fifteen per cent of the people who are compelled to go to Vale would be affected, while the 65 per cent who are now compelled to pass through Ontario to reach Vale would save that one dollar and with the other 20 per cent who now make Ontario their headquarters when compelled to visit Vale there would be no change. In stating that the change would cost the county \$200,000 it simply added a few extra cyphers, as the cost would not exceed two hundred dollars. While the county was only partly canvassed the lists showed about 2500 voters who believe that Ontario is the proper place for the seat of county government, because it is the most accessible to the largest number of the tax payers, and that is all there is to the movement, to place the court house where it will serve the largest number of people. Ontario offers to build them a court house free of all costs and that means a saving to the county, because the present pile of stones being used is about ready to tumble down and would soon have to be rebuilt at

an expense of at least twenty thousand dollars to the taxpayers. In order to show how the people living west of Vale feel about the matter it is only necessary to cite Westfall, Ironside and Brogan, where practically every voter favors the change.

Sample copies of the Seward Gateway, published by Bernie Stone, were received last week. They are carrying a full associated press report and show the usual enterprise of Stone.

The petition for a bridge at the Big Bend met with a general welcome and the section that is now compelled to cross a river to reach the county will soon have a bridge to go over. The Snake river cannot be crossed by a ferry boat in high water, in low water or when the wind is blowing up stream, at other times the ferry works fairly well.

Among the petitions presented to the county court at the session this month was one for the establishment of a poor farm at or near Nyssa. At present the county is paying out large sums for the support of the poor of the county and they are being imposed on, no doubt, by some who would not be on the county if they had to go to a county poor farm, but would be able to gain support in some other way. If a farm is established it should be in a central location and be of such a quality that the inhabitants could raise about everything they needed. Nyssa is recognized as being in the center of the agricultural districts of the county and admirably located for it.

There seems to be a difference between being full of hot air and getting up steam.

Why a War Tax?

The Oregonian finds in the Washington correspondence of the Boston Transcript an exceptionally interesting item about the increased cost of government under the present Administration. The departmental expenditures for the single month of August as shown by the pay-roll made the following extraordinary showing:

Legislative estab-	1915	1914
ishment	\$ 686,238	\$ 647,726
Executive office	73,600	32,481
State Department	283,950	176,110
Treasury Department—		
Excluding public		
buildings	2,223,829	1,946,032
Public buildings	1,856,079	952,701
War Department—		
Military	7,816,576	7,086,693
Department of Justice	855,160	119,797
Navy Department—		
Naval	8,309,285	7,318,818
Civilian	78,635	77,090
Interior Department—		
Excluding pensions		
and Indians	1,675,578	826,967
Department of Agriculture	1,308,351	856,683
Department of Labor	229,329	143,500
Independent offices		
and commissions	178,788	116,901
District of Columbia	554,775	371,139

Thus in a single month there is an excess of \$3,000,000 for ordinary administration over the same period a year ago.

It is not surprising that the Administration is startled by the emergency that confronts it in the imminent loss of revenues through the war. It contemplates a war tax, but fears the political result, and will postpone the inevitable day till after the November election. But there will be a war tax, or some similar expedient.

The present Congress is the most extravagant in history. All pretense of economy has been thrown to the winds. No wonder the administration is alarmed about a war tax. It might have been avoided if the Democratic party had carried out its platform promises.

1913 REPORT OF OREGON MINERALS

Portland, Ore., Aug. 25.—(Special).—The United States Geological Survey, at Washington, D. C., has recently finished compiling the figures regarding Oregon's yield of gold, silver, copper and lead during 1913, and the statement shows an increase of more than 100 per cent over the product of the previous year. The total yield was valued at \$1,746,402, in 1913, as compared with \$849,886 in 1912. Gold, silver and lead showed a marked increase and copper an extraordinary falling off, the 1913 production of the latter metal being only 43,330 pounds as compared with 260,429 pounds the previous year.

In the production of gold Baker county led the procession with \$1,373,480; Malheur county was second with \$82,041 and Grant county third with \$63,652. The gold output in these three counties in 1913 showed an increase of \$972,706. Josephine county led the state in the production of copper with 32,558, about 80 per cent of the total yield. Lane county produced the most lead, 59,204 pounds. There were fewer mines in operation in Oregon in 1913 than in the previous year, but the tonnage from the deep mines was materially enlarged while the placer mines, including one new dredge property, made a record year.

IRONSIDES MAN KILLS A BIG CAT IN CHILDREN'S TENT

Charles Boor of Ironside, Oregon, visited the first of the week with friends in Payette. While here he told of a thrilling experience at his home near Ironside one evening when hearing a disturbance in the yard he went out to investigate. Nothing appearing wrong in the yard he glanced into a tent being occupied by his two small boys and was greatly surprised to see a huge bobcat crouched in the bed. Seizing a club he soon beat the animal to death.

Emmett is in the peach harvest with all their neighbors helping them and then they need more help to handle the large, luscious fruit. Emmett never fails to furnish peaches and grapes from her foot hill ranches.

The Big Bend seems to have gone into the raising of corn a little stronger than any other section of the county and they also seem to have some men who know how to raise it. One man has fourteen acres of pop corn that is going to make a great showing at the fair.

SALT PETRE BEDS DISCOVERED NEAR HOMEDALE

About two weeks ago, while prospecting in Jump creek canyon, eight miles south of Homedale, some Homedale parties discovered a large body of white crystalline mineral. Samples were taken and sent away to be analyzed. The returns from the samples disclose the fact that the mineral is soda nitre or Chili salt peter, which, when found in large bodies, is valuable. It is used in making nitric acid, is the chief constituent of gun powder and is valuable as a fertilizer. There are also good indications of gold and silver in this district and several parties have made locations during the past week. Those that have visited this district believe that it has a big future.—Homedale Empire Press.

Brogan will ship nine cars of peaches this season and in a few years more this will be much greater, when the young trees are developed. Brogan is so situated that there has not been a fruit crop failure there in the last thirty years.

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Mothers should see the splendid showing of high grade "Wooley Boy" Suits for Fall wear. Never before have we received such a remarkable assemblage of these superbly tailored garments for boys. All of these have fully cut knicker pants and fully lined, and come in a large range of patterns. The prices, too, are very modest.

\$3.50 to \$7.50

BRITISH CASUALTIES ESTIMATED AT 5,500

London.—Field Marshal Sir John French, commander of the British expeditionary forces on the Continent, estimates that the British casualties from August 23 to 26 were between 5000 and 6000.

Field Marshal French reports that the German losses in battle from August 23 to 26 were out of all proportion to the British losses, owing to the German attack being made in dense formation. Between 800 and 900 dead or wounded Germans were counted in one street.

Earl Kitchener, the British secretary for war, gives in detail the part played by troops in the operations in Belgium and France. These operations extended from August 23 to August 26. The condition and spirit of the British troops at the front are described as excellent, and reinforcements have been sent up to more than fill the gaps created by casualties.

The report indicates that the British losses were suffered not because of any fault of morale, but because apparently the Germans did them the honor of massing an overwhelming force against them. Under this pressure the relatively small British force, says Lord Kitchener, was crumpled up. The Germans are described as making a lavish expenditure of men to insure success at this point.

Many a young man buys flowers for an actress as an investment.

Next month is time to buy Heaters. Remember we sell the original Cole's Hot Blast, the Howard Heater and others---the kind that save the fuel

Ontario Hardware Company