



The Ontario Argus.

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Representative Newspaper of Ontario and Malheur County.

Vote for Ontario and Receive a New Court House Free Vote for Vale and be Taxed for a new \$200,000 Court House

MALHEUR COUNTY'S DONATIONS TO THE CITIZENS OF VALE FOR PAST 11 MONTHS

From October 1, 1913, to August 31, 1914. Is it the Tax Payers League or the Tax Eaters League.

Vale is sending out tons of literature containing arguments in favor of retaining the county seat at Vale under the cognomen of "Taxpayers League" to create the impression that all the taxpayers of Malheur county are fighting to removal of the county seat at Ontario.

An examination of the bills paid for the fiscal year, ending September 30, 1914, discloses how the major portion of the general fund of Malheur county is disbursed to the Vale Taxeaters.

If there should happen to be any of the "Generous Citizens" of Vale whose names do not appear in the county payroll, they would immediately ascertain from the Vale "Taxeaters League" why they are not let in on the graft.

This list does not include the salaries or expenses of regular county officers, or bills allowed at the September, 1914, term of court.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| J. A. Newton | \$105.00 |
| W. E. Newton | 15.00 |
| Mewyn Newton | 50.00 |
| Bayles & McDonald | 47.25 |
| J. F. Miller | 20.00 |
| J. F. Miller | 185.00 |
| A. W. Glenn | 315.50 |
| A. W. Glenn | 380.00 |
| J. A. Randolph | 4.00 |
| Vale Trading Co. | 6.35 |
| Vale Trading Co. | 13.10 |
| J. S. Woods | 18.50 |
| W. H. Cripe | 108.00 |
| Jim Roberts | 70.50 |
| Interior Warehouse | 2.70 |
| W. L. Blaylock | 8.00 |
| Ed. Blaylock | 12.00 |
| W. L. Blaylock | 1.00 |
| Levi Wilson | 17.25 |
| Don Smith | 12.00 |
| Wm. Plaisted | 2.00 |
| E. I. Blaylock | 1.00 |
| Geo. P. Barkley | 214.25 |
| Geo. P. Barkley | 65.00 |
| H. C. Edwards | 132.00 |
| Paul Grandona | 171.50 |
| Lee Shelton | 9.00 |
| Floyd Howard | 47.00 |
| Lee Shelton | 49.50 |
| Alex Holden | 5.00 |
| Paul Grandona | 62.50 |
| J. H. Ellis | 91.00 |
| Ralph Draper | 10.00 |
| H. C. Edwards | 41.50 |
| Henry Eldredge | 100.00 |
| A. C. Batchelor | 8.00 |
| J. F. Miller | 35.00 |
| Geo. Donaldson | 12.00 |
| Drexel Drug Store | 29.65 |
| Vale Trading Co. | 36.00 |
| R. M. Duncan | 25.00 |
| J. H. Ellis | 4.00 |
| Malheur Ford Co. | 7.75 |
| F. L. Williams | 65.00 |
| Paul G. Freeman | 16.10 |
| C. T. Boynton | 51.00 |
| F. E. Barkley | 52.00 |
| Cole & Smith | 49.00 |
| Geo. A. Newman | 98.00 |
| L. B. Harland | 24.50 |
| Malheur Enterprise | 139.75 |
| Board of prisoners | 207.12 |
| L. E. Hill | 11.00 |

| | |
|------------------------|--------|
| F. J. Froman | 17.50 |
| P. J. Hull | 220.75 |
| Chesters Store | 13.50 |
| Home Lbr. Co. | 343.60 |
| Vale Electric Co | 28.65 |
| Drexel Hotel | 21.00 |
| W. G. Norton | 12.75 |
| Julien Hurley | 20.00 |
| J. E. Bowman | 132.95 |
| J. E. Bowman | 3.00 |
| A. W. Glenn | 49.00 |
| L. B. Harland | 24.50 |
| Chas. Copel | 38.00 |
| Geo. A. Newman | 94.83 |
| Cole & Smith | 5.00 |
| Houston Office exp | 67.79 |
| Vale Garage | 1.75 |
| Vale Garage | 64.00 |
| Vale Garage | 25.00 |
| Vale Garage | 12.00 |
| B. W. Dimm | 45.90 |
| Det Johnson | 10.00 |
| Geo. McKnight | 22.00 |
| Weayer Randolph | 24.75 |
| Ralph Draper | 36.75 |
| A. C. Batchelor | 66.75 |
| James Miller | 100.00 |
| S. G. Bull | 5.00 |
| Vale Hard Co. | 11.25 |
| Vale Trading Co. | 126.21 |
| H. C. Neely | 34.50 |
| J. F. Miller | 206.00 |
| F. M. Vines | 64.35 |
| A. W. Halliday | 25.45 |
| A. C. Palmer | 5.00 |
| A. W. Glenn | 175.50 |
| F. H. Ricker | 24.00 |
| W. P. Harris | 5.00 |
| Empire Lbr. Co. Vale | 70.40 |
| Ralph Draper | 2.50 |
| Int. Warehouse Co. | 730.75 |
| Ernest Sloper | 4.00 |
| J. F. Miller | 100.00 |
| Warren Dillon | 16.50 |
| A. C. Batchelor | 90.75 |
| Wm. McCalm | 39.25 |
| Ralph Hoyt | 34.50 |
| J. F. Miller | 27.35 |
| Selby Transfer Co. | 2.41 |
| Albert Thiele | 2.50 |
| J. F. Miller | 100.00 |
| Sarah E. Flint Ind | 4.00 |
| Malheur Enterprise | 152.25 |
| W. G. Norton | 6.00 |
| Pastime Lunch | 4.00 |
| Joe Boyer | 3.00 |
| Drexel Hotel Co. | 31.00 |
| Della Nelson | 7.40 |
| Louis Hill asses. | 17.90 |
| Vale Elec. Co. | 44.60 |
| Malheur Tel. Co | 82.10 |
| City of Vale | 8.90 |
| J. E. Bowman | 130.00 |
| Board prisoners | 166.80 |
| T. T. Nelson | 10.55 |
| T. T. Nelson | 75.00 |
| Malheur Ford Co. | 4.50 |
| Drexel Drug Co. | 4.00 |
| C. T. Boynton | 175.50 |
| Vale Drug Store | 11.95 |
| Geo. McKnight exp | 59.20 |
| Mrs. F. E. Barkley | 52.00 |
| Empire Lum Co. Vale | 14.75 |
| H. H. Meador | 2.00 |
| C. C. Romph | 3.42 |
| Sarah E. Flint Ind | 4.00 |
| A. C. Gundersen | 16.00 |
| Z. G. Wilson | 3.00 |
| G. A. Newton | 140.00 |
| John Simons | 15.00 |
| Julien Hurley | 25.00 |
| Z. G. Wilson Bailiff | 9.00 |
| Z. G. Wilson | 6.00 |
| Z. G. Wilson | 9.00 |
| Malheur Ford Co. | 12.05 |
| J. R. Weaver, sup. | 325.94 |
| L. E. Hill | 5.00 |
| City of Vale Water | 6.55 |
| Mrs. F. E. Barkley Ind | 52.00 |
| B. Rose & Co. | 4.15 |
| I. F. S. Diven | 131.30 |
| Empire Lbr. Co. Vale | 6.85 |
| C. T. Boynton | 125.75 |
| Drexel Drug Co. | 12.10 |
| Vale Trading Co. | 93.45 |

THE VALE MEN HAVE AGAIN BEEN ASKED TO DEBATE WITH THE ONTARIO SPEAKERS

They Evidently Realize They Have No Favorable Arguments to Advance and Decline the Proposition.

FARMERS AND BUSINESS MENS' LEAGUE.

Nyssa, Ore. Oct. 24, 1914
Mr. Harry B. Grauel,
Secretary Ontario Commercial Club,
Ontario, Oregon.

Dear Sir:
At a meeting of the above named organization, I was instructed to communicate to the speakers of Vale and Ontario a hearty invitation to hold a joint debate in the City of Nyssa to discuss the following question, to-wit:

Is the removal of the County Seat of Malheur County from the City of Vale to the City of Ontario, on the terms submitted to the voters of said County, desirable from the standpoint of the voters and taxpayers of Nyssa and community?

So as to allow ample time to make all preliminary arrangements, I would suggest the night of November Second as a desirable time to hold the debate. In the event of your acceptance, please let me have your views promptly so that the matter can be promptly arranged.

Very truly yours,
P. J. PHILLIPS.

ONTARIO COMMERCIAL CLUB

To the Farmers and Business Mens League, Nyssa, Or., P. J. Phillips, Secretary:

Gentlemen:
In acknowledgement of the receipt by me this morning, of yours under date October 24th, requesting the Ontario People to hold a joint discussion on the subject of Nyssa's interest in the question of the County Seat removal on the eve of November 2nd, 1914, at Nyssa, Oregon, will say that I am authorized to accept unconditionally this invitation on the part of the Nyssa people and will thank you to advise us of your final disposition in this matter and will assure you that Ontario's side of this question will be presented in such a manner that no personal exceptions can be taken by anyone, even though they may not see this matter from an Ontario view point.

Trusting that all this will be to your entire satisfaction, I have the honor to be
Very respectfully yours,
HARRY B. GRAUEL,
Secretary Commercial Club.

VALE HAS IMPORTED FOREIGNERS TO VOTE DESTROYING THE WILL OF THE TAXPAYERS

At the Fair election last fall every man, and woman in Vale and Grange voted and the total was 503. There has been little change there in the way of new people, many of the men who were formerly employed in railroad yards have moved away, still the registration at this time is 938, almost double. Allow them a normal gain of twenty per cent in the year and there are still over 800 people to account for and this can only be done by including the floaters they have there for election purposes only. As

a taxpayer and resident of the county what do you think of a community that goes to such means to defeat the will of the residents of the county who pay the taxes and keep up the schools and other institutions. Do you believe that the time is here to take the control of the county from such people? Look over the list of voters registered and note the many from Vale and the adjoining precincts, Greek and Austrian names of men, who are not citizens and never intended to be.

HOW IT IS POSSIBLE TO BUILD A COURT HOUSE AT VALE WITHOUT VOTE OF PEOPLE

J. W. McCulloch W. W. Wood
McCULLOCH & WOOD,
Lawyers.

Ontario, Ore. Oct. 26, 1914
To Whom It May Concern:
I have been repeatedly asked the question whether or not Malheur county can build a court house at the expense of the taxpayers without first giving the taxpayers of the county an opportunity to vote upon that question. In answering this question I must say that if an election should be called for the purpose of voting a tax to build a court house, and that election should carry, the county would be compelled to carry out the will of the people and make the levy and raise the funds to build the court house. But it is not necessary that an election shall be held and a vote taken before a court house could be built at the expense of the taxpayers of the county. The county court can without any request or vote of the people of the county, make a levy for the purpose of

raising the necessary funds to build a court house.

Some people of the county have a misunderstanding of this matter, obtained, no doubt, from reading Chapter 234 of the laws of 1913. That Chapter provides for the county court making up a budget or estimate and publishing the same, and inviting a hearing or discussion before the levy is finally made. But there is nothing in that law that requires the county court to adopt the suggestions of the taxpayers at the hearing or discussion. If the county court should at the time of making its levy this fall, put in the budget a five mill tax for the purpose of building a court house, there is no power that would prevent that levy from being made, even though every taxpayer in the county should appear at the discussion and hearing and protest against the law.

Very truly yours,
J. W. McCULLOCH.

THERE IS AN OMISSION IN THE OFFICIAL BALLOT IN NO. 332

Through an error of the printer there is no rule between the lines of 332 and 333, so you will have to be careful in marking your ballot so that the x will not cover both lines.
The Clerks of Election are requested to draw a line between these numbers before passing out the ballots.

WHAT THE VALE COURT HOUSE HAS COST MALHEUR COUNTY DURING PAST TEN YEARS

Here Are the Figures Showing How Your Money Has Been Used to Keep Up Repairs.

The publicity bureau of the Vale Chamber of Commerce, called the "Taxpayers" and the Vale Enterprise have rendered numerous false statements to the public to create the impression that the citizens of Malheur County are obligated to retain the county seat at Vale, by reason of the charitable donations which the "Generous Citizens" of Vale have made to the county in the way of a court house, as well as other public enterprises. Ignoring the question of veracity of the claims of Vale towards other public enterprises of the county, let us consider what the facts are in regard to the Vale court house.

The Vale Enterprise and the circulars issued by the Vale Chamber of Commerce under the nom de plume of "Taxpayers League," among other things, makes the statement:

"Vale citizens erected the present court house. The cost of the building ready for the furniture and office fixtures was \$12,500, all donated by Vale citizens."

The facts are that Vale had a county seat fight on about fifteen years ago, and in order to induce the voters of the county to leave the county seat at Vale, the citizens of Vale pledged themselves that they would furnish a new courthouse for the county free of cost. As a result of this promise, the people of Ontario as well as other friendly taxpayers and voters supported the Vale people in their fight to retain the county seat at Vale. However, instead of keeping their pledge to the people of the county, that they would erect a substantial court house for the county, they slapped together some native stone found around Vale and erected a stone wall shell at a cost of \$5,000 as claimed by Vale, then under the pretense that they were unable to supply the remaining funds to finish the court house, they petitioned the county court to finish the job, which they set forth would cost the county only \$3,000.

The records do not seem to disclose just exactly what it cost the county to finish the court house, but the Vale Building Committee estimated the cost would be about \$3,000, however, inasmuch as they claim that the total cost of the court house, on the date when the county officers moved in the building, on or about January 9th, 1913, was \$12,500, the county must have been mulched out of \$7,500, at least for building the courthouse.

The truth about the court house at Vale is best disclosed by the petition filed with the County Clerk of Malheur County on May 11th, 1901, and signed by the Hope brothers of Vale, as well as others who are now conspicuous as the champions of Vale in the county seat fight, and plainly shows the perfidy and deceit practiced upon the taxpayers and voters of Malheur County in the present county seat issue. An examination of this petition of file with the County Clerk of Malheur County should readily convince any taxpayer or voter whether or not the county seat should be removed from Vale, for the false statements they have made in regard to their charity towards the county, and for the false promises made to the electors of the county to induce them to retain the county seat at Vale at a previous election entitle them to no consideration. Here is the public document that is signed by the Hope Brothers and other leading Vale Taxpayers in 1901, which brands the statements issued by the Vale "Taxpayers League," of which they are members, as absolutely false:

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR MAL-

HEUR COUNTY.

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners:
Gentlemen:

We, the undersigned, your petitioners, respectfully represent that the committee heretofore chosen by the citizens of Malheur county to solicit funds and expend the same for the erection and building of a court house upon the county property on the court house square in the Town of Vale; said committee reports as follows:

That said building has been erected to the height of 30 feet, with a stone wall 18 inches thick, and 60x80, with door casing and window casing in both stories, together with the joists for each floor; and nearly enough studding for all the partitions, in place, at an expenditure of about \$5,000.

The committee has used all of its ready means which was subscribed for that purpose; there may be a few dollars more provided these subscriptions are fully paid; whatever that sum may be, it is the purpose of the committee to present that to the county for the purpose of defraying the expenses of completing the building. The contractor has been fully paid, and there is no indebtedness against the building at the present time.

Therefore, we, your petitioners, respectfully ask that your honorable body at once make provisions for the completion of the same; at a cost not to exceed \$3,000. And we urge as a further reason, that if the walls are left as they now stand, wholly unprotected, in a short time their value will be greatly depreciated.

Hoping that you will take immediate action in this, we remain
Yours,

(Signed)
M. G. HOPE,
L. W. HOPE,
W. W. GAVINESS,
F. M. VINES,
J. S. EDWARDS,

and other "Generous Vale Citizens".

While it is almost impossible to ascertain correctly how much the courthouse at Vale has cost the taxpayers of Malheur County, in addition to the \$3,000, which the Vale Building Committee asserted it would take to finish the job, yet the information given out by the "Taxeaters League" of Vale and by the Vale Enterprise is as follows:

(Referring to the Vale court house), "The same building could not be duplicated for \$25,000. To this has been added the vaults and various other improvements, not the least of which is the beautiful shade and lawn which only time and care can create."

"The jail cost the county at that time \$5,000. It is therefore safe to say that the present building and its improvements are worth not less than forty thousand dollars."

While any sane person would take issue with the statement that the present building is worth not less than forty thousand dollars, yet there is no doubt but what the taxpayers of Malheur County have been mulched and grafted out of more than that amount, by county officers who were residents of Vale making piecemeal appropriations from year to year to make the court house habitable. The county judges of Malheur County, as well as the county clerks, have all been residents of Vale for over fifteen years past and in order to bewilder the taxpayer and cover up the court house appropriations, the various amounts expended for court house improvements and repairs have been charged off to