

THE REPUBLICANS OF MALHEUR COUNTY HAVE CELEBRATION

Saturday evening of last week the republicans of Malheur county gathered at Vale to celebrate the birthday of Abraham Lincoln.

A very fine and extremely patriotic program was rendered, an elegant tribute being paid to the memory of Lincoln by J. W. Corson in a forty minute speech.

Speech making was interspersed with some very excellent vocal selections and musical numbers, making the evening a very enjoyable affair.

After the banquet steps were taken looking toward the organization of a permanent republican club for Malheur county.

There was a general feeling of enthusiasm throughout the whole meeting, one that if kept alive will mean sweeping victory for the republican party throughout the county in the coming fall election.

If the feeling of those present can be taken as a criterion for the whole county, there is little doubt but what there is a general feeling of dissatisfaction with democratic propaganda.

That republicans will cease voting the democratic ticket, thus electing men of their own party.

At last week the final touches on the Snake River railroad bridge were completed and its completion was marked by the arrival of the high waters of the river which roared and raged at the bases of the great concrete pillars in the center of the stream.

Another event in connection with the opening of the bridge for permanent use was the passing of a bill by the Oregon legislature.

This bridge is one of the largest of its kind in the west and is built upon a foundation that will remain long after the builders have passed out of existence.

The new piers are wide enough to put a double track on and the fact seems to indicate that a double track road will not be long in coming after the water branch is connected with the road.

Many books are given to library members of the Woman's club and these books are very much appreciated.

With the hearty response given to the efforts in behalf of the public library last week, when a large proportion of Ontario's people attended the book social, and brought generous donations of books for the library's shelves.

There were also a hundred volumes given, a substantial addition to the present collection of books, and these books are on the shelves and ready for the use of the public.

In addition to the gift giving, a most delightful evening was spent at the banquet, the Woman's club being the hostess.

SMALL RANCHES DO WELL IN RAISING SHEEP AND HOGS

To the usual observer going over the country in an automobile, the lot of our small farmers does not appear very rosy, but an investigation of the outputs of these small but well kept ranches are a great surprise to everybody.

The Argus has been gathering a little data on the situation, and we are frank to admit that the results of our casual inquiries are a surprise to ourselves.

A number of our farmers are following the example of the Twin Falls people in keeping a small band of sheep on their farms. The Twin Falls people with no more than 40 to 50 acres find sheep raising a very profitable side line.

The ewes are then turned back on the range and two cutting of alfalfa are harvested off the land. Their experiences bring them to the conclusion that they also get about a third heavier wool crop by pasturing the sheep in this manner.

C. R. Emlen, one of our most up-to-date farmers and business men, has tried this experiment and is very well pleased. He says that one acre will pasture ten sheep and their lambs, that the old sheep will shear a third more, and his lambs are ready for market much earlier, thereby assuring him the fancy prices paid for early lambs.

NEBRASKA FARMER BUYS FARM HERE

Henry Moeller, of Bennington, Neb., has bought the J. P. Houseman place and is on his way here with two car loads of goods. He predicts that others will be here soon looking after places. Lands in Nebraska are higher than here and it is impossible to make the \$7 an acre rental that they ask for them.

That is the reason the eastern farmer wants the western lands because they are capable of producing more.

The Leap Year Ball given Friday evening Feb. 11, by the young ladies was a tremendous success.

The Oregon Club rooms were beautifully decorated in honor of the occasion. Cupids and red hearts were suspended from chandeliers to all parts of the room.

In the card room delicious punch was served throughout the evening. Charles Garven dressed as a "Fair Lady" being an excellent server. The booth was tastefully decorated in flowers and hearts.

About one hundred couples were present. People from Boise, Weiser, Payette and Vale attended. Some of the most beautiful gowns ever seen here were worn there.

The music was splendid and everyone enjoyed "Tripping the Light Fantastic". Favor dances were introduced during the evening in which partners were chosen by numbers.

Everyone hopes that the girls will decide to give another party in the near future. The gentlemen were given but one opportunity to choose partners and get even with the ladies.

TO FORM COW TESTING ASSOCIATION IN DISTRICT

Cow testing associations are being organized in many parts of the country and are doing a world of good in getting at the business end of dairying.

The plan is to include dairy herds from in the vicinities of Ontario, Nyssa, Payett, Fruitland and Barona. County Agriculturists Howard and McCall, of Canyon County are co-operating with the writer in working on this association.

To form a cow testing association, 25 herds are necessary, and at least 400 cows must be entered. The 25 herds are necessary so that the tester can put in that many days each month, spending an entire day at each place.

The main purpose of a cow testing association is to enable its members to find out accurately which cows in their herds are the money makers and which are the boarders.

Complete records are kept by the tester on each and every cow in the herd. Many dairymen say that they are entirely able to do this themselves, and have the best intentions, when saying this, to test their animals.

There are many other advantages resulting from a cow testing association. It creates an interest in dairying in the community that could be secured in no other way.

It encourages dairymen to market their product co-operatively, and buy any necessary feeds the same way, it raises the value of good cows while it does not lower the butcher value of poor cows.

It creates a demand in the community for calves from dams with good records. In one association in one month six separators were found doing poor skimming.

One farmer was losing 12 pounds of butterfat each month. It has been worth the price to some in just having the cream tested each month. And there are many other benefits to be derived from an association.

F. W. KEHRLI, Field Dairyman.

but the number carrying on this work systematically through the whole year is insignificant.

Moreover, it is really cheaper to have this work done by the tester than to do it one's self. It would take the average farmer a long time to become familiar enough with all of the details to do the work as well as the tester does.

There are many other advantages resulting from a cow testing association. It creates an interest in dairying in the community that could be secured in no other way.

It encourages dairymen to market their product co-operatively, and buy any necessary feeds the same way, it raises the value of good cows while it does not lower the butcher value of poor cows.

DRAINAGE DISTRICT BEING FORMED NEAR ONTARIO

A movement is on foot to organize a drainage district here at Ontario, to embrace some six or eight thousand acres of land lying adjacent to Ontario.

Land owners are beginning to realize that it pays to drain irrigated land, as it will keep down the salts constantly brought to the surface by irrigation. They also realize that it is better and more profitable to drain early, before their lands become too strongly impregnated with alkaline, than to wait until the alkali shows on the surface, as the sooner the lands are drained, the sooner you begin to increase your crop yields, and the easier it is to clean out the land by sub-surface drainage.

A preliminary survey indicates that most of the land in Snake River Valley can be effectively drained at not to exceed \$15 per acre, which cost, when met by a bond issue, maturing in five, ten or fifteen years at a low interest rate, is small compared with the beneficial results obtained.

As yet this movement is just getting under way, but we will keep our readers posted on the progress made.

COMMERCIAL CLUB ANNUAL MEETING

On Monday evening next the annual meeting of the Commercial Club will be held in the club rooms at the City Hall. There are several important committees out that will be ready to report and the annual election of officers comes up.

A full attendance of all the members is desired as it is going to mean much for the club for the next twelve months.

PLOWING IN THE BARREN VALLEY

Robert Odell returned Tuesday from a two weeks trip through the western part of the county. He missed the big snow storm and found A. E. Brown plowing and other evidences of spring. He also found a lot of cattle and sheep for the assessor, nearly 40,000 sheep and 5,000 cattle.

AT DREAMLAND ON MONDAY EVENING

William Fox presents Edmund Breese, in Alfred Suto's drama "The Walls of Jericho," at the Dreamland Theatre, Monday night, Feb. 21. This will be a startling drama of modern society produced with tenuous realism.

ATHEY WINS SUIT FOR \$5000.00

A jury in the district court at Boise last Friday gave A. W. Athey, former ticket agent for the Oregon Short Line at Ontario, in his suit against that road for defamation of character, a verdict for \$5,000.

Athey was discharged by the Oregon Short Line from his position because he was alleged to have embezzled \$27.90 of company money. The statement that he had embezzled that amount was published, but he was not arrested by the company, nor was any charge made against him.

YOUNG LADIES SHOW THE MEN HOW TO ENTERTAIN



Creeping into Hampton Roads, Va., in a fog and manned by a German prize crew, the Appam, British merchantman, which was captured off Africa by a disguised German gunboat, caused a sensation throughout the country; she had 430 other persons aboard. The announcement of the appointment by the president of Louis D. Brandeis, a radical, an anti-trust lawyer, to the United States supreme court surprised the country; objections appeared in the senate. Zeppelins renewed their activities, both Paris and London being pelted by bombs, which killed and maimed many. President Wilson extended his tour for preparedness to include more western territory. After being lost in the Atlantic for almost two days the submarine K-5 was sighted and put in at Key West, Fla. Governor Goethals and General Edwards reached Washington to report on the Panama canal slide and canal fortifications. D. Lamar will serve two years for impersonating congressman.

UNCLE TOMMY BARTON AMONG MERRY MAKERS. Perhaps the oldest man at the Lincoln banquet held at Vale the past week was Tommy Barton, veteran of the Civil war and a staunch republican of the old school.

The young bloods were appreciative of the fact that this old veteran found time from his many important business duties to assist in a fitting celebration of the birthday of our beloved Lincoln, and showed it by three rousing cheers for Mr. Barton.

Ontario has some other good old republican veterans who intended being present, but were prevented by business reasons.

THE BOOTLEGGERS ARE GETTING BUSY. The first case of bootlegging to come up here was tried before City Recorder Stearns last week and resulted in the conviction of Dutch Charley and the paying of a sixty dollar fine.

There were other charges made but nothing proven. Very few shipments of liquor are reported as coming to this place under the new law, which is not surprising because there were very few residents of Ontario who patronized the saloons, the business was done with men from the outside, principally the railroad laborers.

GROVER BROS. SHIP 9 CARS OF HOGS. The Grover Brothers shipped seven car loads of hogs to the Portland Market on Friday last and should have been on the market Monday when the top price was \$8.25.

WILLIAM JONES REPORTS ALL STOCK DOING WELL. William Jones was down from Juntura Friday looking after business here. He says that stock is wintering fairly well in his section and that most of the ranchers have plenty of hay to carry them through.

Some of the feeders will hardly buy it unless compelled to. Some horses are a little thin, not having been gathered in time, but with ordinary weather from this on and there will be little loss.