

The Ontario Argus.

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HIGHWAY TO THE COLUMBIA RIVER

Meeting With Hearty Approval in All Sections.

A petition signed by 377 taxpayers of Malheur county was presented before the county court last week asking for an order to approve a state highway from Ontario through Vale, up Willow creek to Ironsides, through Unity in Baker county, to the headwaters of the John Day river, down the John Day through Prairie City, John Day and Canyon City, thence to Layville, Sprague and to Fossil in Wheeler county, thence, to connect with the Columbia highway at Rock or Olex in Gilliam county. The petitions were signed by residents and taxpayers of Ontario, Vale, Ironsides and Brogan.

This road, if established, will tap one of the richest sections of Oregon, a territory through which there is no paralleling roads, a scenic route for tourists and territory where there is practically no waste or desert lands. The section in Grant and Baker counties and the north end of Malheur county is a natural summer route, and taps one of the best forest reserves in Oregon in the Blue mountain region. There is fine fishing and springs in this territory and the route is reported to be one of easy grades.

By this route Portland is 118 miles nearer Idaho's state highway than by any other survey possible to be made and the farmers all along the line are anxious to see the road established. Over two hundred farmers of the Willow creek valley signed the petition for the highway, thus showing the sentiment among the farmers along the road.

The order made by the county court of Malheur county was forwarded to the state highway commission and the commission has already expressed themselves as favorable to the establishment of this route as one of Oregon's through highways.

The road would strike this county at the Beam creek divide 9 miles west of Ironsides, follow Beam creek and Willow creek to Ironsides, through Cow Valley to Brogan, through Vale to Ontario, a distance of 78 miles.

Most of this road is now in fair shape and with the exception of a few miles can be placed in good condition for a year round road.

The cost of a preliminary survey for this county has been placed at one thousand dollars, but this seems excessive, when the small mileage of new road is considered and it is probable that a lower estimate will be made later.

There is no question of the importance of this interstate highway and it is thought to be the most feasible one we can get.

All the other counties are working hard for its establishment.

A MESSAGE ABOUT THE U. S. ARMY

By Van C. Kirkpatrick.
Mr. Van C. Kirkpatrick has a message on the United States Army that every American citizen should hear and heed.—W. J. Boone, Founder and President of the College of Idaho.

"The largest audience of men I have seen in Nyssa. He gives you something to think about."—B. F. Harper, Pastor Nyssa Presbyterian Church.

"From four years residence near an Army Post, I can say his statements are true and conservative. It is a gripping message."—S. M. Hunter, Emmett, Idaho.

Randall J. Condon, Supt. of the Public Schools of Cincinnati, H. H. Seerley, Pres. of Iowa State Teachers College, David Starr Jordan and many others endorse this lecture.

At M. E. church, Tuesday evening, April 12 at 8 p. m. Admission 15 and 25 cents.

THE ITALIAN ARMY SCORES GREAT MILITARY VICTORY

We see by the papers that the Italians have won a great victory, beating the enemy back to camp by four good lengths.

ZAN GARREN BUYS NAMPA LUMBER YARD

Negotiations for the sale of the Reinhardt & Rinaldo lumber yard by which Zan Garren of Ontario becomes the sole proprietor were closed Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Garren takes possession Monday.

Mr. Garren plans to considerably enlarge his recently acquired lumber business in Nampa. The foundation for a 24x50 foot warehouse is now being laid and a shed 124x100 will be built immediately. The firm will be known as the Independent Lumber Company.—Nampa Leader.

GLADYS HOLLAND IS WED TO BURNS MAN

One of the prettiest weddings that has occurred in Burns was at the home of Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Holland last evening, when their daughter, Miss Gladys Glenn Holland, was given as a bride and wife to Dr. J. Shelby Saurman. Miss Bessie Swain acted as bridesmaid and Dr. C. C. Griffith was best man. Mr. Frank Saurman, brother of the groom was also present at the wedding. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. F. Shields, then followed a most sumptuous and elaborate wedding dinner. The rooms were daintily and tastefully decorated, with pink colors predominating.—Burns News.



VENUSTIANO CARRANZA
The President of Mexico.

THE U. S. IS AFTER 6,000 ARMY HORSES

Horse owners in the Northwest who want to dispose of their animals now have a chance.

Uncle Sam wants 6200 horses, delivered in Portland. He wants 5000 for cavalry purposes and 1200 for artillery. Owners have been advised, through the Portland Chamber of Commerce, that they can submit offers of such horses, not later than May 1, to the office of the United States Army quartermaster at Seattle. Further particulars will be provided by the Chamber of Commerce.

HOW IRRIGATION INCREASES YIELD

George Russell, of Prineville, makes the statement to the Madras Pioneer that in 1910 he raised 1295 bushels of grain on 170 acres, in 1911 he raised 2750 bushels on 150 acres, with 40 acres of it watered, and in 1912 he raised 12,250 bushels on 150 acres, all irrigated. Mr. Russell states that in his opinion his land is better for grain but ours is better for alfalfa.

The Ontario Music Club was entertained at the home of Mrs. Adam last Saturday, April 8. The High School girls rendered a delightful program. The Glee Club gave two numbers, and vocal and piano solos were an important part of the evening's program.

TO REDUCE EXTRAVAGANCE OF THE COUNTY OFFICIALS

The Formation of Tax Payers League Will Be Guard Over Expenditures.

Robert E. Smith, of Roseburg, addressed a small crowd in the Commercial Club rooms last Friday evening on Taxation.

Mr. Smith is editor of the Tax Liberator and is devoting his time to show the people of Oregon how they can reduce their taxes.

If the county is organized and there are members in each precinct who are posted as to the needs of that precinct and see that the money expended in that precinct is done to the best advantage there will be a material improvement in the amount of work given the county for the road money expended. When it is known that every man in the precinct is looking after the interests of the precinct you are going to get value for every dollar expended.

When your county is organized and men from all sections gather to discuss the needs of the county you will be able to do much pruning of the budget and items that are not legal will be cut to where they belong. There will not be any special allowances for the school superintendent or other officials and each of the county officials will cut his expenses down to where they belong when he knows that his every act is going to be known to the tax payers.

When you are organized it will not be possible to get away with a deal to pay an agent \$750 bonus for \$30,000 in bonds at 6 per cent, when men appear before your board and offer to take the bonds at 5 per cent, without any bonus. The saving there alone means \$6,000 in interest and the \$750 and the additional attorney's fees that will have been paid out before the county is free of the pending law suit. A saving of over \$7,000 on a \$30,000 deal is surely worth looking after. Another matter in connection with those bonds is the manner in which the bids for the

construction of the bridge was handled and a cheaper construction adopted after the bids were opened and the contract awarded. It is safe to say that from eight to ten thousand dollars was lost to the tax payers by that one deal. And it would not have happened if you had a tax-payers league organized here and had been watching your officials.

Another important matter is the value of your property. At present some is assessed at more than its cash value, others at 75 per cent and all the way down to 25 per cent. This is unjust and decidedly wrong and when you have an advisory board to look over the list this can be corrected so that the assessed value will be somewhere near equal.

At present this county is paying about \$35 per capita tax. The tax in Minnesota was only \$2.50 per capita up to a few years ago when they commenced some large improvements and it is now below \$5 per capita.

High values have always lead to high taxes, just as they have in your county. If the officers get an idea that your county is worth eleven million they assume that you can afford to pay a good round sum to them, but on the other hand if a value of seven million is placed on your property they are going to keep that expense down.

It is very poor policy to select men for an office simply because they tell a story well, they should be at least successful with their own affairs before placing them in control of the county affairs.

It is gratifying to see that one section of your county has started off with a league and it is to be hoped that other sections will also see the light and organize.

A league will be organized here in the near future as a result of the talk made by Mr. Smith.

SEVERAL BIG CATTLE SALES MADE IN BAKER

Several big cattle sales have been reported the past few days, foremost among which is the sale of the John Evans herd of pure bred Shorthorns to Wm. Pollman, the herd consisting of 75 head. The purchase price was not given out.

Poelman and Wendt the first of the week sold to W. H. Lewis of North Powder 300 head of three year old steers. It is understood that the purchaser paid \$57.50 per head.—Baker Democrat.

SMALL GIRL DIES FROM SEVERE BURNS

Weiser, Idaho.—The six year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Gross, who live about 14 miles from Weiser, was burned to death Thursday afternoon. Mr. Gross had been burning sagebrush near the home and the little one in some way happened to get too close to the fire and her clothes caught fire. Her mother and older sister rushed to her aid but it was too late. The little tot had been so badly burned she died a few hours later.

NATURAL GAS IS STRUCK ON THE RAILROAD GRADE

Word was received here Tuesday that the railroad contractors at work in the cut at the Gap had struck a strong flow of gas. This is reported so strong that the workmen are unable to remain in the cut for a very long time.

This is an additional evidence of the possibilities of oil in this territory and brings to mind the great development and bright prospects of this district. It is not likely this flow will interfere materially with the railroad construction and may

help toward an early completion of the road further into the territory should there be oil found in the prospect at Dog Mountain.

Should this flow be found sufficient it will be a great asset to the town of Bendire which is being laid out at the Gap as it will furnish cheap lights and fuel.

Walter and Will Grey came in from that section and bring the report of the gas flow and also state that work of surveying and other preliminaries have begun on the new townsite.—Burns Herald.

Indications are to the effect that Carranza is nearing the end of his rope. And ropes, you know, are proverbially short in Mexico.

'Tis said the true shape of the earth still lacks accurate determination. Not our job.

Constantinople says Erzerum was of no importance. This explains why Turkey kept only 160,000 men there.

Just keep in touch with your neighbor, of course. The absorption of his ideas will serve to broaden your own.

AN EPIDEMIC OF THE SPOTTED FEVER

Baker, Ore.—Spotted fever, resulting from the bite of sage ticks, is spreading so that Grant county is greatly in fear of an epidemic earlier and greater than ever this spring. One case was reported near Prairie City, at the eastern edge of the county, the first of the week, and four cases have just been reported from Monument in the western part. Other cases were said Saturday to be developing in other sections of the county and preparations to battle the disease were being made.

J. W. McCULLOCH HAS MANY FRIENDS

J. W. McCulloch is home from a short swing through the eastern Oregon counties and feels that he is going to be the fortunate one to receive the nomination for public service commissioner.

He found he had many more friends than he had counted on and that his warm supporters were out working for him in the different counties.

As the other candidates swing around it is more fully realized that Malheur county has a candidate who looms big and will receive the support of the people who want a competent man in the office.



Photo by American Press Association
ELIHU ROOT, OF NEW YORK
Prospective Candidate for President.

GIRL ATTACKED BY COW BADLY INJURED

Miss Rosenberger, a sister of T. D. Rosenberger was injured Saturday afternoon by being attacked by a cow at the Rosenberger farm east of town. Miss Rosenberger was walking behind a hay wagon, in the field where the cows were, when she was suddenly attacked by the cow and knocked to the ground. The cow continued to bunt her after she was down and was driven off with considerable difficulty. Miss Rosenberger had three ribs and a wrist broken and received internal injuries.—New Plymouth Sentinel.

BIRTH OF THE NATION EXCURSION TO RUN

There will be an excursion to Boise Friday and Saturday of next week, April 21 and 22, on account of the show "The Birth of a Nation" at the Piny Theatre. A rate of fare and one third will be charged, tickets good until the 23rd.

Mrs. Sradley, a resident of the Bend for the past ten years, died early Tuesday morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Bradney, in Roswell. A paralytic stroke Sunday evening was the immediate cause of her death, but she had been feeble for some time.

TO IRRIGATE MORE WILLOW RIVER LANDS

Eastern Oregon Land Company and Pence Co.

Vale, April 11.—Another irrigation district comprising 10,000 acres of very rich land lying between Jamieson and Vale in the Willow River valley, is being organized, a petition for this purpose having been filed this week with the county court by the settlers in the proposed district. This land extends to within five miles north of Vale. These settlers have taken over some old water rights. It is proposed to build a concrete dam at a point about seven miles above Brogan for the purpose of impounding water in a reservoir site there. The old water rights together with the impounded water are reported to be amply sufficient to furnish a complete water right for the 10,000 acres included in the district. Three thousand acres of this land now has a partial water right. With the formation of the district and the completion of the dam these 3000 acres and the 7000 acres of new land would be given a full water right.

The land in this proposed district is reported to be among the best alfalfa and grain land in the state.

This part of Malheur county will be given a big impetus when this district and the proposed Warm Springs Irrigation are successfully put through.

E. O. Land Company.

Rhea Luper a water man from the state engineer's office was here this week making an attempt to adjust some water matters on Willow creek.

The water board recently declared the Eastern Oregon Land Company entitled to some 270 inches of water and it was applied to small strips of land extending over quite an area. The company wished to conserve the water and use it on a compact body of land and made application to the board for the permit. There was but one rancher who objected to it and the request will probably be granted. This will make another fine big farm for the valley.

The same company is also working to get the waters of the old Eldorado ditch to some lands in the Willow valley and if successful in this will place another large tract in cultivation.

The revival of the old Pence rights is also going to improve matters for the Willow creek ranchers.

At present the waters of this stream is in several hands and there are many reservoirs, private and owned by companies and it is barely possible that some day all these interests will combine and then there will be a fine system for the entire valley, with sufficient water for all.

THE DREAMLAND HAS GOOD ONES BILLED

A dramatic military romance, "Brother Officers" will be presented at the Dreamland Saturday night, April 15. It is a military play that will appeal to all.

Monday night, Nance O'Neil, America's foremost emotional actress, will star in "Princess Romanoff," based on Sardou's "Fedora."

Edgar Lelwyn, in a spectacular picturization of his own romantic drama "The Arab" will be the attraction next Wednesday, April 19.

We often wonder if a rat in a trap doesn't have a fellow feeling for the editor who is unable to collect his delinquent subscriptions.

LAFFERTY HAS HIS NERVE WORKING

Salem, Oregon.—A. W. Lafferty, Republican, former congressman from the Third Oregon district, who was defeated for the nomination two years ago by the present representative, C. N. McArthur, Friday filed declaration of his candidacy for nomination at the May primary election.