

# The Ontario Argus.

VOL. 20

ONTARIO, MALHEUR COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1916.

NO. 31

## NITRATE BEDS ARE TO BE DEVELOPED

### Big Deal Closed This Week Six Thousand Acres Are Sold.

Malheur county is getting accustomed to big deals. They are perfecting arrangements for the watering of thousands of acres from the Warm Springs and other projects. They are organizing for the drainage of thousands of acres of lands around this section, and now comes word of the closing of a deal for six thousand acres of Nitrate lands at a good figure, probably sixty thousand dollars.

Mining engineers who have been over the state claim that Malheur county has more Nitrate than any other section of the world outside of Chili, and the beds in Chili belong to German capitalists.

A few months ago M. T. Loy, who lives near Mitchell Butte, was after cattle near Currant basin and found what he thought was nitrate and what proved on test to be a very fine grade of nitrate and he closed a deal here this week for the sale of all the deposit to some Chicago bankers, who were represented by R. C. Dugdale, who has been in the county the past six months, just looking around.

Andy Lackey, of Ontario, is the one entitled to the credit of the discovery of nitrates in this county and his son has made a thorough study of the subject until he is looked upon as an authority. Mr. Lackey located the claims sold to Harry Wilson and associates and this was about ten thousand acres and he also holds title to some fifty thousand acres in another body that is said to be the best grade of any so far discovered.

One great advantage so far has been the fact that the claims were held so that large tracts could be disposed of to companies, and it is necessary to have a large body of the material to make it a commercial proposition.

Sodium nitrate is the base of nitric acid, which is used for all high explosives, another use is that of a fertilizer.

A road will have to be built to these holdings up the Owyhee river and engineers are at present in the field to determine the most feasible route. These claims are in tp. 25 south and range 44 east, being west and south of Mitchell Butte.

There is much work being done on the claims held by Mr. Wilson on Succor creek. They have a number of vats working and are adding to the plant all the time.

It is thought that most of the deposit can be worked without further crushing, simply a leaching and evaporation process, which requires much space for vats and tanks.

## CARELESS SHOOTING AROUND THE CITY

Someone is very carelessly shooting in the southern part of the city. On Wednesday afternoon a bullet struck the Smith boarding house and was embedded in the wall. Fortunately no one was on the porch at the time. Boys and some men have no business with a gun, as they have no idea of the damage they can do. Several shots have been heard in that part of town and the city marshal hopes to land the guilty person behind the bars.

## JACK RABBITS ARE THINNED OUT SOME

Mr. Howard, the farmers' friend, has been around the country where they made a fight on the jack rabbits last winter and says he found few rabbits, while in sections where they made no concerted effort to stamp them out there is a lot of them. The winter poisoning seems to be the thing.

## RILEY HORN'S DREAM HAS COME TRUE

A few weeks ago we published a story from the Jordan Valley Express about how Riley Horn, a youthful trapper, settled in the Hole in the Ground some twenty-five years ago and how he had accumulated property and stock.

On Friday evening of last week Mr. Horn sold his interests in that section to W. H. Gess, representing Mr. Murphy and others of Portland. The consideration was above \$150,000 cash. In addition to the thousands of acres held by Mr. Horn was his cattle and horses.

Mr. Horn controlled a large range by having title to many tracts where there was water and his stock always had the best of range. The big steer exhibited at the county fair last year is the best of evidence for that.

Mr. Horn has a ranch near Ontario and other property, and we understand he expects to make his home on the place near Ontario.

We believe that Mr. Horn was about the largest individual cow man in the county.

## THE WEEKS NEWS AT THE HOSPITAL

During the past month a total of 33 patients were admitted for treatment into the hospital, 21 of whom were surgical cases. There are at present 12 patients receiving hospital care.

The sisters are indebted to Mr. and Mrs. J. Farley for a beautiful couch which they have added to the splendid furniture that makes the "Farley room" one of the choicest in the hospital. Heartiest thanks are also extended to Mesdames Fraser and Luehrs for their exquisite roses. The series of improvements carried on during the past two months is about to be completed. Considerably over \$2000 were spent in alteration, decorations and new equipment in the intention of making the institution as efficient and adapted as money can make it. The next improvement to be undertaken in the near future is the renovation of the surgical department. The doctors from Ontario and its neighboring towns who make use of the surgery have kindly consented to contribute towards the purchase of the latest make of operating table involving an expenditure of some \$300.

## TELEPHONE OFFICIALS INSPECT PROPERTY

G. E. McCarr and Murray McNeill of Denver, of the construction and operating department of the Mountain States Telephone company, Tetro and Cline, of Salt Lake, Jones and Snyder of the Boise office, were here this week making a thorough inspection of the Malheur Home Telephone system, with a view to bettering it wherever possible. They found that the rural and toll lines out of Ontario need rebuilding and will recommend that the work be done at once. The city lines will also be improved where possible to make the service just as efficient as possible. They were travelling in a big Pierce Arrow that has made the trip through the seven states in which the company operates.

## CHINA PHEASANTS ARE INCREASING

Howard Mallett says that there are a few of the China Pheasants around from the birds turned loose a few years ago, but many of them nest in the irrigated fields and the young are drowned or the eggs spoil. They do well where there is some uplands or swamps for them to nest in. It is about the same way with quail.

## MANY BIG EVENTS TO BE PULLED OFF AT FAIR

### Indications Promise the Biggest and Best Fair Ever Held in Malheur County

In the Argus a few weeks ago we gave an account of the work being done in getting the attractions for the County Fair lined up and this week we want to call your attention to a few of the many features they have arranged for your entertainment.

The managers of the fair are determined to give you the very best this year that has ever been attempted at a county fair.

They have the best strings of trotting and pacing horses in the west and will have two harness races each day of the fair. The track is going to be in shape so that fast time will be made. The horses are capable of going in about 2:10 and you will have no complaint about the time made. There are a number of these horses entered for each race so there is bound to be a contest for each place. These horses are all old campaigners and no tedious waits will be tolerated. They come from 10 different states.

For the running races there is going to be equally good attractions and equally good horses have been engaged.

The Malheur Fair has made an enviable reputation by having something doing every minute and they are going to conduct the fair this year along the same line, introducing many novelties between the main races.

One feature that has attracted much attention at the fairs has been the wild mule and wild colt races for the boys and wild horse races for the men. Some people claim they do not like to see these events and the management has arranged to pull them off the last thing each day which makes it possible for any

who do not care to witness these events to retire.

A string of wild mules for the boys has been engaged and they are warranted to be all ginger. If you want to laugh your head off, come and see the boys and mules, better than any three ring circus you ever saw.

A string of colts will be there for the boys to practice on and you can rest assured that every boy in this content will learn something new about wild colts.

Then for the men they are going into the brakes of the Owyhee and dig up some wild and woolly ones that have never been branded, some of them have never had a rope on them and are eight and nine years old. They are in good condition this year, because the bunch grass is plentiful. They will make the riders earn their prizes before they give up. To many people this will be the star feature of the entertainment.

The management has promised novelties galore and here is one of them. There will be a five mile buckaroo relay race, change horses each half mile in front of the grand stand, ter changes. You will have to have a helper to keep count of the riders and horses. Several teams are already practicing for this race and there are going to be several strings of horses, making one of the big features to the lovers of novelties.

The above is just to call your attention to the fact that on September 19, 20, 21 and 22, 1916, there will be held at Ontario the biggest and best county fair ever pulled off in the west. Next week we will tell you of a few more of the features being arranged to entertain and instruct you. Be sure and arrange your dates to be here that week.

## AN IDEAL CLIMATE FOR THE SUMMER

Local people are realizing more than ever this year that the weather man is kind to the Snake river valley. Here we are aving cool breezes and low temperatures, while the east is dying from heat. The reports from the south of 156 in the shade causes a shiver to run over one. We take the cool nights here as a natural condition just as the people in the east expect the hot nights and days.

## JORDAN VALLEY VISITORS HERE

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Kohout and daughter, Miss Katherine, came over from Jordan Sunday. They found some dust around Homedale, but otherwise the roads were fair. Mr. Kohout returned Tuesday, accompanied by Miss Ruby Fenwick. Mr. Kohout will be back next week for the Buyers Week at Portland. Mrs. Kohout will visit her sister, Miss Smith, for a week.



Scene from the "Unfaithful Wife" at the Dreamland, Monday, Aug. 7th

## LAMPKIN'S STORE SOLD TO NEW FIRM

W. T. Lampkin has sold his business here to the O. & F. Co., limited, and they will have their opening on Saturday, see their announcement on another page.

Mr. Lampkin has been in business here about ten years and has made many friends for himself and the store.

The new firm is composed of Elmer Orcutt and W. A. Fulkerson, of Weiser.

Mr. Fulkerson bought into the Orcutt store at Weiser and then the new firm took over the Lampkin store which will be under the direction of Mr. Orcutt, while the Weiser store will be managed by Mr. Fulkerson.

Mr. Orcutt is too well known here as a successful and enterprising merchant to need any introduction at our hands at this time. He will conduct the Lampkin store in such a manner as to win your friendship and business and will be pleased to have you call and inspect the store and prices.

Mr. Lampkin has no definite plans for the future, beyond taking a well earned rest, after ten years of hard work. He will probably visit the old home in the east before deciding on a new location. Mr. Lampkin has taken a prominent part in the work of making a city of Ontario and will be greatly missed in the councils and work. A host of friends will wish him well wherever he may cast his lot.

## LOOKING FOR A CREAMERY LOCATION

L. R. Clough, who was here a few years ago with the Hazelwood Creamery people, was here last week looking over the situation with a view to establishing a creamery here. He says this is an ideal place for one and the farmers should get some cows and get ready as it is only a question of time when the creamery will be here. The pasture, hay and grain can be grown here in abundance at small cost and the price of butter and cheese is always good. Even in competition with the outside countries the prices are keeping up now, but this is due in a great measure to the war. The short winters and long grazing season is what appeals to the dairyman.

## FIRE DESTROYS A FARMHOUSE

Just after trading out, C. J. Anderson, a farmer west of Ontario was burned out Friday. He had traded the place for residence property in Seattle and had his household goods packed ready to leave. All the clothing of the family, his wife, two sons and two daughters, was lost. The boys had been working on the St. Paul orchard tract all spring and summer had drawn their wages only that day and lost several hundred dollars. Mrs. Anderson was in Ontario when the fire occurred and Mr. Anderson was at a neighbors and before any one reached the house everything was afire.

## BIG BEND HAS THE USUAL BIG CROPS

J. R. Blackaby and Lem Goodwin made a trip to Boise last Saturday. They stopped over in the Bend and found some fine fields of grain and the corn looking fine. C. J. Anderson threshed 72 bushels of barley and others are getting equally good yields of grain. From Parma to Boise they had all kinds of experiences. A long nail run into one of the tires and kept prodding the tube for some time before being discovered and they were patching tubes for a few hours, until they felt qualified to attack almost any job of that kind.

## ARMY OFFICERS AFTER RECRUITS

### Oregon Guard Needs More Men For Service on the Border.

Captain Clark of the U. S. army service, is here for three days to receive applications for recruits for service on the border.

The captain is accompanied by Sergeant Wickham and they have been to all the principal places between here and Portland, and have received many applications for the service, but the regiment is still short.

The captain gives the recruits the assurance that they will go to the front at once and that they will live the life of a soldier in every respect, except for the present they will not have to do actual fighting, all the regular training will be thorough so that if trouble should occur in a few months or weeks the boys will know how to go into a skirmish and give a good account of themselves. It requires several months to get recruits ready to fight and the treacherous Caranza will probably be ready when the days begin to get a little cool, by that time the American soldiers will know how and will give the Mexicans a drubbing that will make them good Mexicans.

The captain makes an examination of the recruits so that there is little chance of rejection if the captain passes you.

The service means a fine trip of several thousand miles and a training that will be worth much to any young man for the balance of his days. In fact some of the boys will be made into self respecting men, who will be a credit to the country.

The captain is at the Moore hotel for three days.

## THE STEEL GANG IS DUE HERE NOW

The steel gang is expected here today to start work on the changes to be made in the local railroad yards.

It will take about a month for the twenty-five men and the full equipment to make the changes.

The passing track will be extended south 1400 feet and there will be storage and loading tracks added, some ten new switches will have to be placed and about six taken out. The changes will give much more room for trains and will cut into the Vale track so that can be used as a passing track when needed.

## AN EXPLOSION DESTROYS MILLIONS

There was an explosion in New York City early Sunday morning that killed thirty people and destroyed about thirty million dollars worth of property. There were some 80 cars of ammunition for the English ready to be loaded on boats and a large number of warehouses filled with raw sugar and other merchandise. The cause has not been determined.

## HOLCOMBS ARE BUILDING HOME

H. L. Holcomb has given the contractors an order for a new home on the corner of Illinois and Morfit streets. It will have five rooms and a bath and of the bungalow style. That section of the city is being gradually filled up with nice homes.

This is good, but it isn't ours: "International law is an old fiddle upon which any tune can be played.

Villa, in the number of his lives, has shoved the cat off the map.